FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 AUGUST 1984

Gulf Conflict

The Greek tanker *Endeavor* suffered "slight damage" in an air attack on 18 August near Qatar, according to a Kuwaiti oil source cited by KUNA. In the only monitored Iranian and Iraqi reportage of the incident, Tehran radio cited Manama shipping sources who stated that an unnamed Panamanian tanker was attacked in the "Persian Gulf by an unidentified plane," while Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio referred to an AP report that stated without mentioning an attack that a fire had broken out aboard an unnamed Panamanian tanker near Bahrain. KUNA indentified the *Endeavor* as the tanker involved in the attack, and pointed out that earlier press reports had misidentified it as Panamanian.

Red Sea

British, U.S., and Egyptian minehunters began operations in the Gulf of Suez area on 17 August and have not yet discovered any mines, MENA reported. The first French minesweeping flotilla arrived in Jidda on 18 August and will be joined by additional French vessels the following week, Paris radio added. Meanwhile, Soviet minesweepers have been combing the waters off the PDRY for several days, AFP reported on 20 August citing informed Egyptian sources.

In a related development, Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, in remarks to the Paris weekly *AL-MUSTAQBAL* cited by MENA, stated that his country is ready to participate in a conference of Red Sea Arab littoral countries that would reach a unified program to ensure security in the area. He also affirmed that Egypt will close the Suez Canal to any ships belonging to countries that threaten Egypt's security and safety. Concerning this Egyptian policy, Iranian Majlis Speaker Val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani warned in his Friday sermon broadcast by Tehran radio that if an Iranian vessel were to be delayed in the Suez Canal under the "pretext of inspection," then a ship belonging to Egypt's "clique" will be delayed in the Hormuz Strait in "retribution." He added that Iran has neither the power nor the policy to mine the Suez area. In response to Hashemi-Rafsanjani's warning, Cairo radio cited the Cairo paper *AL-AKHBAR*'s contention that there is no "justification" for his remarks, and that Egypt's measures are "not directed against anyone."

Lebanon

Security Situation — The security situation has "deteriorated seriously" along the Ash-Shuwayfat — Kafr Shima and Suq al-Gharb — 'Aytat lines in the mountain area, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio reported on 19 August. The radio blamed the Phalangist militia and the Lebanese Army for continuing the clashes that occurred 17 and 18 August. However, the Voice of Lebanon radio claimed that the "socialists and their allies" are causing the sniping and shelling in the area, while the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon blamed "Junblatt gunmen" for instigating the fighting that began as early as 16 August. The latter radio also reported that the military attache at the Greek Embassy was wounded during an assassination attempt in Beirut on 19 August.

Al-Awwali Bridge Closure — The Batir ash-Shuf Bridge across the Al-Awwali River was closed on 20 August for 3 days, Jerusalem radio reported. The closure is aimed at implementing "security measures" that will lead to tighter control over the passage of vehicles and goods into southern Lebanon. Lebanese Government officials, however, believe that the closure is a punitive measure taken in "retaliation" for the closure of Israel's representation in Beirut, the radio added.

Jordan

In an interview with Cable News Network broadcast by Amman Television on 18 August, Jordan's King Husayn renewed the call for an international peace conference on the Middle East based on UN Security Council Resolution No 242. The conference would include "all parties concerned" as well as the permanent members of the Security Council. According to an Israeli Government spokesman cited by the *JERUSALEM POST* on 20 August, Israel rejects Husayn's proposal because the solution to the conflict must be based on "direct talks" between the two countries.

Pakistan

DRA Attacks — In a statement broadcast by Kabul radio on 17 August, the Afghan Foreign Ministry "completely" rejected Pakistani protests concerning Afghan attacks on Pakistani territory on 13 and 14 August, describing the claims as "completely baseless and lacking in truth." Through such "accusations and baseless fabrications," the statement continued, Pakistan hopes to hide the fact that it has been transformed into a "base of aggression and undeclared war of imperialism and reaction" against the DRA. Meanwhile, Afghan planes and artillery again attacked Pakistani territory near Parachinar on 18 August, killing 16 people and wounding 6 others, Karachi radio reported.

Aeroflot Explosion — An explosion "slightly damaged" the Karachi office of Aeroflot on 18 August, Karachi radio reported, citing a Pakistani agency.

Foreign Minister Gulf Tour — Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan departed Doha on 20 August after a 3-day visit to Qatar, WAKH reported. The foreign minister had earlier met with leaders in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, KUNA noted.

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'Arafat Message to UN Palestine Seminar

JN181809 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has reiterated the PLO's commitment to the UN resolutions and its concern that international legitimacy play a greater role in settling the Palestine question and achieving a just peace in the Middle East. In a message he addressed yesterday to the ninth UN seminar on the Palestine question on the occasion of its concluding session in Tunis yesterday, Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar denounced all attempts to hamper the United Nations' role and to play down its effectiveness. He said this reflects negatively on international peace and security.

Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar stressed that peace and stability in the region cannot be achieved unless the U.S. Administration and the Zionist enemy's government relinquish their hostile policy and their disavowal of the Palestinian people's national and inalienable rights, including their rights to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of their independent national state.

Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar said: The convening of an international conference on peace in the Middle East under UN auspices is the only means to impose international legitimacy, safeguard the Palestinian people's inalienable rights, and guarantee peace, stability, and security in this region.

In his message Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar pointed to the Palestinian people's sufferings from the Zionist enemy's frequent wars against them and the most hideous repressive measures against them inside occupied Palestine. These include the defiling of their Christian and Islamic holy places, the changing of occupied Jerusalem's features, and the launching of attacks on Palestinian citizens by terrorist Zionist gangs that are encouraged by the Zionist enemy's government to expel them from and confiscate their lands, in addition to encroachements on water sources and the establishment of Zionist settlements at a time when the Palestinian people outside the occupied territory are suffering from the bitterness of expulsion, life in camps, and inability to return to their land.

Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar said: The Palestinian people aspire to peace in their independent state. They want to contribute to building human civilization and play their natural role, with their scientific qualifications and creative capabilities, for the sake of mankind's happiness.

Concluding his message, Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar called on the participants to give a strong impetus to peace efforts and initiatives that recognize the Palestinian people's inalienable rights.

PLO Executive Committee Rejects Syrian 'Terms'

JN181417 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1235 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Tunis, 18 Aug (INA) — An informed Palestinian source has disclosed that the Syrian regime has a plan aimed at hampering any future dialogue between the Palestinian factions. The source told INA's corespondent that the plan includes conditions on what he called Palestinian action. This plan in reality is an attempt to resume full hegemony over the Palestinian revolution and its various factions.

The informed source said that Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam recently delivered a message to Khalid al-Fahum that included conditions to be delivered to the PLO command.

The source explained that the Syrian message accused Yasir 'Arafat of being a traitor and called on the PLO Executive Committee, the Palestinian factions, and independent Palestinians to form what it called a national salvation front and to call the PNC to meet on this basis. As a reply to this message, the source emphasized that the PLO Executive Committee has decided to cancel the planned visit by a PLO delegation to Damascus. It also rejected the Syrian conditions that were included in Khaddam's message and considered them another attempt to contain and impose guardianship on the Palestinian people.

Joint Committee With Jordan To Meet 24-25 Aug

JN171739 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] The joint Palestinian-Jordanian Committee will meet in Amman on 24 and 25 August. In a press statement issued yesterday, a committee official said that among the most prominent issues the committee will discuss will be assessing its past activities and forming a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation to visit some Arab countries in order to reach agreement on these countries' paying their commitments to the fund for supporting the Palestinian people's steadfastness. The official added that the committee will give priority to the projects aimed at protecting occupied Jerusalem from the Zionist authorities' Judaization plans.

The Palestinian side to these meeting will be headed by Brother Hamid Abu Sittah, member of the PLO Executive Committee. The Jordanian side will be headed by Sulayman 'Arar, Jordanian deputy prime minister and interior minister.

Palestinian Dialogue Opens in Algiers

LD181954 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Excerpt] The second round of the Palestinian dialogue began today in Algiers between Fatah, PFLP, DFLP [Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine], FLP [Front for the Liberation of Palestine], and the Palestinian Communist Party.

Al-Wazir Statement on Meeting

JN181739 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, asserted in Amman yesterday that the second Palestinian meeting which began in the Algerian capital yesterday will adopt practical measures before the PNC convenes sometime before 15 September. In a statement before leaving for Algeria, where he will head the Fatah delegation to the meeting, Abu Jihad called the PNC meeting a pressing need in terms of the PLO's future. Abu Jihad said the Algiers meeting will allow the delegations of major Palestinian factions to review the results of recent contacts held by various wings concerning the PNC meeting.

Fatah, Democratic Alliance Statement

LD192135 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Brothers, here is the press statement of the unionist meeting of the Palestinian revolution. The statement says:

On 18 August 1984, a meeting was held in the Algerian capital between the delegation of the Fatah movement and the delegation of the Democratic Alliance to review developments and the necessary steps required to implement the Algiers-Aden agreement. The meeting reviewed the political and popular activities which were carried out during the recent weeks and arrived at the following:

1. High appreciation for the Palestinian national unanimity inside the occupied land and outside it, represented by the stand of the masses, institutions, personalities, unions, and the national forces in support of the Algiers-Aden agreement. The conferees emphasized that this unanimity reflects the keenness of our people for the unity of the PLO, the protection of its legitimate institutions, and the preservation of its national course and independence.

2. Expression of high appreciation of the role played by the brothers in Algeria and Democratic Yemen, and especially Presidents Chadli Bendjedid and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, for speeding up Palestinian national unity steps, and the protection of the PLO as the sole and legitimate representative of our Palestinian people. The meeting also stresses appreciation of the stand of the allied and friendly forces at the Arab and international levels in supporting the Algiers-Aden agreement.

3. Emphasis on the importance of strengthening the Syrian-Palestinian relations, and developing these relations for the benefit of the common Pan-Arab struggle against the imperialist and Zionist enemies and their schemes. The meeting expressed support for all practical steps leading to that objective.

4. The conferring parties emphasize their full adherence to the Algiers-Aden agreement, and the necessity of an immediate start of comprehensive national dialogue. The conferring parties also stress the need for convening the Palestinian National Council in its 17th session on the date set in the Algiers-Aden agreement.

5. The meeting emphasizes the need for taking practical steps to implement the contents of the Algiers-Aden agreement in regard to upgrading the national struggle in occupied areas.

6. The meeting expresses its welcome and support for the Soviet initiative. It affirms that the realization of the national inalienable rights of our Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, is the main pillar for achieving a just peace in the area. The meeting also expresses appreication for the principled Soviet stand regarding unity of the PLO and the Soviet leadership's efforts in this respect.

PNC, Aden Pact Discussed

JN200834 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 20 Aug 84 p 1

[By Hamadah al-Fara'inah]

[Text] Amman — Leaders of six Palestinian factions held what was described as an important six-hour meeting in Algiers which ended in the early hours of Sunday and a senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) said the talks focused on the paramount importance of calling the Palestine National Council (PNC) into session as soon as possible. [sentence as published]

Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, head of the PLO Executive Committee's information department, also said that the meeting of the leaders of Fatah, the mainstream commando movement within the PLO, and a "Democratic Alliance" also reviewed a political and organisational agreement reached between Fatah and the alliance in Aden last June and ratified in Algiers in July.

Mr. 'Abd Rabbuh said that the PLO welcomes moves aimed at achieving reconciliation among PLO factions, especially efforts coming from South Yemen, Algeria and the Soviet Union so that the organisation will be able to so settle outstanding problems and safegaurd its unity and its various institutions.

The Algiers meeting was attended by representatives of Fatah and the "Democratic Alliance," which group the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the Palestinian Communist Party (PCP) and the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF), and the Arab Liberation Front (ALF).

A "National Alliance," which includes dissidents in Fatah, the pro-Syrian As-Sa'iqah, PFLP-GENERAL Command led by Ahmad Jibril and the Popular Struggle Front, did not attend the meeting. The "National Alliance," which demands the resignation of PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, has vehemently rejected the Fatah-"Democratic Alliance" agreement.

Mr. 'Abd Rabbuh said Sunday the meeting also stressed the importance of urgent moves to implement the agreement and criticised the "National Alliance" for its rejectionist stand.

"It is indeed a pity to see the members of the 'National Alliance' still adopting a negative attitude and refuse all proposals for reaching positive solutions and continue to adopt a divisionist attitude that by no means can serve the cause of national unity, a central issue for Palestinians in the present stage," Mr. 'Abd Rabbuh said in a telephone interview with the *JORDAN TIMES*.

Therefore, he added, "those that lag behind the march for national unity are bound to face total isolation from the Palestinian people and would be drifting away from the allies of the Palestinian people in the Arab region and the world at large."

Groups To Meet Before NPC

NC190950 Paris AFP in English 0932 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Algiers, Aug 19 (AFP) — The heads of the main Palestinian organizations will hold a meeting in Algiers before September 15, in advance of the 17th session of the National Palestinian Council, or parliament in exile, a senior Palestinian official said today.

Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, deputy general secretary of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), said a statement would be made later today, specifying "the next stages of the national Palestinian dialogue".

The decision to hold the meeting was made at the end of yesterday's second interPalestinian conference in Algiers that included representatives from several Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) groups, he said.

The meeting will group, for the first time in almost two years, Fatah leader and PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, Nayif Hawatimah for the DFLP and George Habash of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).

National Alliance Threatens Permanent Split

JN201347 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1215 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] At a crowded and hot news conference that was attended by several Arab and foreign reporters, the leaders of the Palestinian National Alliance — Ahmad Jibril, Samir Ghawshah, 'Isam al-Qadi, and Qadri [Samih Abu Kuwayk] — have announced that the call for convening the PNC in Algiers at the end of next month, before reaching a comprehensive national agreement, is a serious secessionist step. This step actually means a split within the PLO. They described this as a historic and permanent split.

They also announced that they will hold all those who participate in any way in this PNC session fully responsible. They will also hold responsible any Arab government that allows the convocation of this PNC session on its territory. They said that they will consider this as collusion by this government, and, consequently, that they will struggle against any Arab regime that hosts the PNC.

They said that they will not attend this PNC session. Ahmad Jibril said that there is a split within the Democratic Alliance on this issue, and that Dr George Habash has informed them, as he informed Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, that the PFLP will not attend the PNC if the National Alliance members will not attend. They stressed that the PNC will not convene, despite the announcement of the convocation, except after the comprehensive national agreement. It was a clear threat when one after another [National Alliance leaders] said that whoever goes to the PNC called for by Yasir 'Arafat will stay at 'Arafat's side in Tunis or elsewhere, and that he will not have a place, as they described it, in the arena of the real struggle in Syria and Lebanon.

Answering a question about how the National Alliance will retaliate against the summoning of the PNC, which the Alliance considers a secessionist step, the Alliance leaders said that a Palestinian nationalist salvation front will be established comprising forces, functionaries, and other national figures in the Palestinian arena. They added that this will become clear in the forthcoming days.

They admitted that their forces were engaged in battles against the Lebanese Army in the mountain area and that they lost hundreds of men. They also admitted that they are currently fighting on the side of the Lebanese nationalist resistance men in southern Lebanon, but still adhere to the Cairo agreement. However, they reiterated that the Lebanese Government has not yet proposed any alternative to them.

The journalists who attended this news conference noted the strong, threatening language which the Alliance leaders used against those who would attend the PNC session. For instance, Dr Samir Ghawshah said: Our hands will remain a sword brandished at the heads of deviationists and the course of submission.

However, the Alliance leaders affirmed that the door is still open for the Democratic Alliance members to restore dialogue and cohesion with the National Alliance members, but within certain incontrovertible conditions, foremost of which is agreeing to the disqualification of 'Arafat and to strip him of his legitimacy to lead the PLO.

PFLP-DFLP Denounce 'Arafat's 'Trend'

JN200633 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Damascus — The joint command of the PFLP and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] has condemned Yasir 'Arafat's trend and practices and his continuing efforts to deepen problems and contradictions within the Palestinian arena. An official spokesman of the joint PFLP-DFLP command denounced 'Arafat's statement to the U.S. television network CBS. The spokesman said that these statements are within 'Arafat's policy of bypassing the PNC resolutions and continuing to follow the Camp David path.

Sa'id Musa Urges Algeria, PDRY Not To Host PNC

JN200730 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0700 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] After the representatives of Fatah and the Palestinian Democratic Alliance have agreed on the need to convene the PNC before 15 September, Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], one of the Fatah dissident movement leaders, called on Algeria and the PDRY not to host the PNC unless all the Palestinian organizations and factions agree on it. This came during a speech at Shtawrah in Al-Biqa' in which he said that the Palestinian National Alliance's call for 'Arafat's resignation is still valid.

More on Sa'id Musa Muragha Address

JN190730 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Al-Biqa' — The seventh extraordinary conference of the General Federation of Palestinian Workers in Lebanon began yesterday evening. The opening ceremony was attended by Brother Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha], member of the Fatah Movement's provisional command; Comrade Muhammad 'Abd al-'Al, Ba'th Party Regional Command member in charge of the unified Palestinian organization; representatives of Lebanese progressive parties and forces; and heads of Palestinian popular organizations.

Speeches were delivered on this occasion on behalf of the Palestinian revolution, the General Federation of Lebanese Trade Unions, and the General Federation of Palestinian Workers were delivered on this occasion.

The speakers affirmed that the Palestinian revolution remains united in the face of all conspiracies, pressures, and deviations that are being carried out against it in order to liquidate it and peddle the capitulatory and defeatist solutions.

Brother Abu Musa delivered a speech on behalf of the Palestinian revolution in which he stressed the Palestinian National Alliance's eagerness to safeguard the PLO's unity. He said that the PLO's unity can be preserved only through a commitment to the Palestinian National Charter; and through a national basis that will be hostile to imperialism, Zionism, and their agents, and will oppose all forms of capitulatory solutions. Brother Abu Musa referred to 'Arafat's attempts to divide the PLO and the Palestinian popular organizations.

He stressed that these attempts will never succeed thanks to the maturity of the Palestinian people and their supporting cadres. Abu Musa said: Our mature people and their cadres are capable of exposing him and his deviationist trend, and subsequently of toppling him.

Brother Abu Musa reiterated the Palestinian revolution's desire to consolidate its alliance with Syria, the Lebanese nationalist forces, and Libya on the basis of the common struggle against the Zionist enemy. He also pointed to the failure of the Zionist invasion of Lebanon by saying that the Zionist enemy has failed to achieve the objectives of its invasion of Lebanon. He added: The Zionist enemy failed to crush the Palestinian revolution and remove it from the arena of struggle, and it will not succeed in subjugating Syria. Abu Musa added: Therefore, the enemy will not succeed in imposing the second part of Camp David on the Lebanese arena, because this part has been foiled thanks to the joint struggle of the Syrian-Lebanese-Palestinian alliance forces.

Palestinian Reportedly Shot in Madrid

Wounded PFLP Commando Leader

NC191148 Paris AFP in English 1123 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Madrid, Aug 19 (AFP) — A Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) member who was shot and critically wounded here Friday is the special commando leader for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the police announced today.

The PLO member, Zaki Al-Hilu, 44, also known as Abu Sa'id, is "the official responsible for the special commandos of the military branch of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine," the police said in a statement.

Mr. Al-Hilu was shot at point-blank range by gunmen on a motorcycle, as he drove on a Madrid street with two passengers. He was initially identified as a south Yemeni businessman.

In Kuwait, two newspapers had reported that a claim for the attack had been made by the "Islamic Revolution organization," which was identified as a pro-Iranian group.

The popular front, led by George Habash, is a radical faction of the PLO.

Mr. Al-Hilu's condition, though said to remain critical, has improved, hospital officials said today, adding that he had regained consciousness and was breathing without a respirator.

PLO Accuses Israelis of Attack

LD191238 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1045 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Madrid, 19 Aug (MAP) — The PLO has accused the Israeli intelligence men of firing at the PLO member Abu Sa'id in Madrid day before yesterday.

A statement issued by the PLO office in Madrid today said that the PLO is confident that this criminal act was the work of the Israeli intelligence which seeks to liquidate the Palestinians inside and outside the occupied territory in order to annihilate the Palestinian people and thereby end the Palestinian cause.

It is recalled that armed men opened fire day before yesterday at 'Awad Ahmad Salim alias Abu Sa'id, who received serious wounds in his neck and was taken to hospital for an operation.

The Spanish police said that the person hit was 'Awwad Ahmad Salim, who is a southern Yemeni diplomat.

Seven-Member Committee To Meet in Baghdad 26 Aug

JN171452 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1430 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Tunis, 17 Aug (INA) — The Arab League General Secretariat today officially informed the Arab countries which are members in the Arab seven-member committee entrusted to follow up the Iraq-Iran war that the committee's next meeting will be held in Baghdad on 26 August.

Iraq had proposed to the Arab League General Secretariat that this meeting be convened at the above venue and date instead of next month in Tunis as previously scheduled.

The INA correspondent has learned that the Arab League General Secretariat has set 25 August as the date for the foreign ministers of the Arab countries which are members of the committee to arrive.

The committee is comprised of the foreign ministers of Iraq, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Morocco, the YAR, and the head of the PLO Political Department. Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi will also attend the committee meeting, which is the third since the committee was established.

Statement Released on OPEC Delegation Missions

LD171652 Vienna OPECNA in English 1530 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Caracas, 17 Aug. 84 (OPECNA) — The efforts of the two OPEC ministerial delegations which have visited eight member countries in two weeks resulted in "clear and positive effects on market stability", according to a statement released here.

Dr Arturo Hernandez Grisanti, Venezuelan minister of energy and mines, who was in the delegation which visited Iran, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Libya, said the OPEC ministers noted a "gradual recovery in the market".

The first OPEC delegation comprised OPEC conference President Kamil Hasan al-Maqhur, who is Libyan oil secretary and Dr Subroto, Indonesian minister of mines and energy. The delegation visited the United Arab Emirates, Nigeria and Gabon.

The second delegation is made up of Dr Mani Sa'id al-'Utaybah UAE minister of petroleum and mineral resources, Dr Arturo Hernandez Grisanti and Belkacem Nabi, Algerian minister of energy and petrochemical industries.

The Al-Maqhur delegation will later visit Algeria, Venezuela and Ecuador while the Al-'Utaybah delegation will also visit Iraq and Indonesia.

According to the statement released here, OPEC ministers held two meetings in Tripoli, Libya — the first with Major 'Abd as-Salam Jallud, member of the Libyan revolutionary leadership, and the other with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution.

Col. Al-Qadhdhafi reiterated Libya's support for any OPEC decision to defend prices and ensure market stability.

The Libyan leader also emphasized the need for sacrifice on the part of OPEC member countries in order to achieve a common objective.

Earlier in Jidda, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Saud of Saudi Arabia had stressed the Kingdom's commitment to the unity of OPEC and reaffirmed that Saudi Arabia "has been, and will continue to be, a pioneer within the organization".

King Fahd also pledged that the Kingdom would continue to protect the interests of the peoples of the organization's member countries.

The OPEC delegation also held two working sessions with Saudi Arabian Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, during which recent developments on the world oil market were examined. The ministers agreed that the market situation had stabilized.

Strong pledges of support were also given to OPEC by the heads of state of the UAE, Nigeria, Gabon, Kuwait and Qatar and the president of Iran.

In a review undertaken in Tripoli with OPEC conference President Kamil Hasan al-Maqhur Wednesday, the Al-'Utaybah delegation noted that OPEC production did not exceed 17.5 million b/d — a fact which had "contributed towards strengthening the organization and price stability".

The oil ministers agreed to keep in contact and on alert to ensure "a common front against any pressure to lower oil prices".

The visits undertaken by OPEC ministers followed the decision of the last ministerial conference to "make necessary contacts" with member countries in order to consolidate "commitment to market stability and defence of the oil price structure".

During a one-hour stopover in Cairo, the Al-'Utaybah delegation had met Egyptian Oil Minister 'Abd al-Hadi Qandil. Although not a member of OPEC, Egypt had decided to maintain the price of its Suez blend at 28 dollars per barrel.

In that meeting, it was emphasized that cooperation was fundamental to all oil exporting countries, both members and nonmembers of OPEC, sources said.

Yamani is to lead another delegation to visit non-OPEC countries "with a view to finding ways and means of enhancing cooperation between OPEC and those countries, in a joint effort to shoulder the responsiblity of stabilizing the oil market and defending the oil price structure".

French Minesweeper Flotilla Arrives in Jidda

LD181218 Paris Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] The first French minesweeping flotilla arrived this morning in Jidda in Saudi Arabia. The flotilla includes two minesweepers and a backup ship with divers on board. They are to be joined shortly by three more ships which are supposed to reach the Red Sea by the middle of next week.

Mined Channels Reportedly Pinpointed

LD191920 Paris Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Two mined channels in the Red Sea are reported to have been pinpointed at the entrance of the Gulf of Suez. This is indicated by the French Navy in Djibouti this evening. Sixteen ships are reported to have been damaged in these two channels.

GULF AFFAIRS

Greek Tanker 'Endeavor' Attacked in Gulf

LD191048 Kuwait KUNA in English 1012 GMT 19 Aug 84

[By Shamil Khairy]

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 19 (KUNA) — The oil tanker *Endeavor* which went to Dubai after coming under aerial attack in the Arabian Gulf Saturday will proceed to London Sunday with its shipment of 77,000 tons of Kuwaiti fuel oil, an oil source told KUNA. An official source at Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC) said the Greek tanker was on charter to KPC to transport the shipment to London and that it suffered only slight damage in the aerial shelling and there was no leakage.

The source said a single aircraft attacked the tanker at 0750 hours GMT some 70 miles east of the Gulf state of Qatar. He added that the vessel moved to Dubai in the United Arab Emirates shortly after the air raid under its own power. Earlier press reports had said that the tanker was Panamanian.

BAHRAIN

AL-ADWA' Criticizes U.S. Reaction to Kuwait Arms Deal

GF180758 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0650 GMT 18 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Manama, 18 Aug (WAKH) — In Bahrain, the newspaper *AL-ADWA'* has criticized U.S. reaction to the armaments agreement which Kuwait has concluded with the Soviet Union. The paper said: The United States has started a pressure campaign against Kuwait aimed at affecting its independent decisionmaking and freedom to act in its armaments agreement with the Soviet Union. The agreement is intended to increase its military capabilities and strengthen its air and naval defenses following the refusal by the United States to grant Kuwait's request for weapons, including Stinger missiles.

AL-ADWA' continued: The United States has expressed concern over the arms deal and also announced it will study the effects of the Soviet arms deal on U.S. military aid to Kuwait in what seems to be a hidden threat to stop such aid in response to the affairs of an independent state. This is considered an interference in the internal affairs of Kuwait. It is Kuwait's internationally recognized right to draw its own policy and choose its own government and the type of weapons it deems necessary to defend its territory.

AL-ADWA' asked the United States to understand that it has begun to gradually lose its credibility because it has not offered scientific proof that it is a friend of the Arabs and because it exports to Israel offensive weapons of destruction and annihilation which it does not need itself, while at the same time refusing to supply Arab countries with defense weapons because it is trying to keep these countries weak to become their guardian.

KUWAIT

Foreign Minister Interviewed on Regional Issues

LD171129 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0714 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Beirut, 17 Aug (KUNA) — The deputy prime minister, foreign minister and minister of information, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, has stressed in a press interview that the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) has achieved a great deal for the peoples of the region. He expressed his hope that it will be the strongest brick in the building of comprehensive Arab unity. Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad pointed out that we are still exerting efforts, and on all levels, to put an end to the Gulf war, which has harmed the peoples of the region, who are bearing the largest share of the damage.

In an interview with the magazine *AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI*, to be published on Saturday, he said that foreign intervention, whether from the West or the East, will add fuel to the fire in the Gulf war and will not solve the problem. The only intervention we have proposed is intervention to end the war, provided it is acceptable to the two warring parties. He again asserted Kuwait's role in Arab issues, which stems from Arab and national principles — a role that will never change because it is based on a principle and not an interest. However, he pointed out that the circumstances in the Arab region require patience. Here is the text of Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad's interview with the magazine:

Question: Do you expect the Riyadh summit to be held on schedule despite the Arab differences?

Answer: We hope that the Riyadh summit will be held on schedule, unless circumstances arise leading to its postponement. It is no secret that events in our Arab homeland overtake each other, and we do not know what will happen tomorrow. But we hope that events will take their natural course.

Question: Do you have any ideas on how to solve Arab differences?

Answer: We have always worked and will continue to work to overcome all the differences among the fraternal Arab states. Yes, our idea on how to resolve the differences is to have a farsighted view of the damage these differences are causing, which reflect on all. Therefore, in my opinion, Arab differences can be eliminated if they are handled with wisdom and with sincere desire, avoiding personal whims and formalities, and if the general interest is placed above everything else.

Question: The acuteness of the Gulf war has abated, but it has not stopped. Do you think the present lull comes before the storm, or is it a phase paving the way toward ending this war?

Answer: We are still exerting efforts on all levels to end the Gulf war. We will continue to make efforts tirelessly. The damage caused by this war affects everyone. If its acuteness abates today, it will increase tomorrow, unless a radical end is put to it. You are aware that fraternal Iraq welcomes an end to this war, which has harmed the two warring parties, as well as the peoples of the region, who are bearing the greatest share of the damage. We will not rest until we can extinguish its flames with other sincere people.

Question: Is it possible to consider the UN Security Council's resolution with regard to the freedom of navigation in the Gulf as a factor that helped to stop the tanker war, or are the reasons due to the failure of Iran's military capabilities?

Answer: There is no doubt that the Security Council resolution has lessened the acuteness of the war and has also reduced the acuteness of the tanker attacks. It is a resolution from an international organization, and one must respect such a decision at all costs. Perhaps it will help to bring the views of the two warring parties closer, to end the tanker war, and then to reach an understanding on halting the war between Iraq and Iran and on satisfying the claims of the parties.

Question: Exercises to train special forces for the war in the Gulf region took place recently in the United States. What is your comment on this?

Answer: The exercises conducted by the United States or others do not concern us. The same applies to what they say and spread in the world. Our views are known, namely not to recognize and condemn any foreign intervention in our region.

Question: Is there any hope that Iran will accept the mediation of the group of Islamic states or others to stop the war?

Answer: If we lose hope then despair takes over; and if despair takes over it brings nothing but destruction. I say yes, despite Iran's intransigence and its rejection of numerous mediations. I am fully confident that the responsible officials in Iran will take into consideration the interest of the Iranian people. Indeed, without any doubt they do take such interest into consideration. Therefore hope is pinned on those men of wisdom and on those who have the final word.

Question: Could you assess the efforts of the Arab Foreign Ministers Committee? Was there international sympathy for such efforts?

Answer: Yes. The seven man committee found international sympathyfor its good offices. Perhaps you are following up what the press agencies have reported about its continuous call for an end to this war, because it is harming everyone and is affecting the international interests in general. As to the evaluation of its efforts, this is left for the others who appreciate its role and what it had done. They also appreciate the damage this war is causing.

Question: Have the efforts succeeded in convincing Japan to reduce its dealings with Iran to compel it to accept negotiations to resolve the differences with Iraq by peaceful means?

Answer: I believe Japan has interests with both Iran and Iraq, and I believe that its dealings have been reduced because of the tanker war. As to the acceptance of negotiations between the two warring parties, in my view this cannot be done except by working to bring the viewpoints of the two parties closer and by narrowing the gap between them and by convincing them of the advantages to be gained for present and future generations. Iran and Iraq will always be neighbors. Therefore, a comprehensive agreement between them must be established. This must replace the dispute that does not benefit this generation nor future generations. Peoples and nations do not make progress and flourish except through understanding and cooperation in all areas of life.

Question: What is the attitude of Kuwait and the states of the GCC toward any direct U.S. intervention in the Gulf war?

Answer: As I have said, we are against any foreign intervention, whether direct or indirect, and whether this intervention came from the West or the East. Foreign intervention adds fuel to the fire and does not solve the problem. The only intervention we accept is the intervention to end the war, provided that it is acceptable to the two warring parties. In this instance we consider this intervention — if acceptable to the two warring parties — as an intervention for the sake of good, otherwise it will be the evil we do not accept or agree to.

Question: Can one give the visit of the Kuwaiti Defense minister to Moscow a political significance.....

Answer: I say no; the buying of arms is not a policy, but business. I buy the weapons I need and pay for them. It is a business deal, whether it was concluded with the East or the West. The weapons I buy with my money are of no concern to others. It is my own affair, and it is purely a commercial affair.

Question: It has been reiterated that the weapons that will be purchased from the Soviet Union will bring with them Soviet experts to Kuwait and the Gulf region. Is this correct?

Answer: The weapons I purchase are for use and not for storing. There are weapons I purchase and know how to use; and there are new weapons I purchase and must learn how to use, whether it be in the country that sold these weapons or in my country. I purchase weapons only for my own use, and I will not allow another hand to use them on my behalf. I will be trained in the use of such weapons by the seller for a period of time, but I will never leave it to the instructors forever. Furthermore, who said I buy weapons along with the instructors...and how can I buy weapons and not know how to use them.... We are not concerned about the tendentious utterances that cast doubts on everything and portray things contrary to the facts.

Question: Was there a kind of coordination between Kuwait and the rest of the GCC states on this military turning toward Moscow?

Answer: It is no secret that we have long had friendly relations with the Soviet Union, since it stood beside us on our issues. We greatly appreciate such stances. Our turning to buy weapons that we are short of is a turning of friendship, a turning of interest between our two countries. This is not a question of coordination with the GCC states. This is a bilateral arms deal between us and the Soviet Union.

Question: It is being reiterated that Kuwait is experiencing an economic crisis because the Gulf war, the limiting of oil production, and the shakeup in the stock market. What is the truth about this?

Answer: Economic crisis is being experienced all over the world. Kuwait's economy is not separate from the world economy. There is no doubt that the Gulf war, the limiting of the oil production and the shakeup in the stock market have had their impact on Kuwait. But let me assure you that Kuwait's economy is firm and strong. Perhaps you read 2 or 3 days ago about the strength of the Kuwaiti dinar and its strong position in the world markets. This indicates the soundness of the Kuwaiti economy and the soundness of our financial and economic policy. As for the shakeup in the stock market, as you put it, it is on the way of being resolved, after all the problem has been contained, and legislation has been enacted to solve it.

Question: Is it possible to define the important issues the next GCC summit in Kuwait will discuss?

Answer: There are many issues the Gulf summit conference will tackle in Kuwait. Some of them are connected with the GCC, and they are numerous. They form the nucleus of the comprehensive unity, the most important of which is economic cooperation among the states of the council. Naturally the Iraq-Iran war will be discussed and so will be the Arab differences.

Question: Do you think that the GCC has achieved its purpose, and do you think its existence is a pressing need for the region?

Answer: The GCC is proceeding on its course as planned. I am not saying that it has accomplished everything. But it is sufficient to say that it has successfully accomplished its first steps. The GCC was born and began to make its strides firmly; but the road is long, matters are complicated, and we do not want to treat them hastily. Rather we want to study them conscientiously so that they become a strong brick for the foundation of its unity. There are some matters in which we have made long strides, including economic and cultural, political and military matters. We are proceeding on the road, thanks to the cooperation and understanding of the leaders, and to their consideration of the interests of their peoples. We pray to almighty God to accomplish the hopes, and we hope that the GCC would be the strongest brick in the building of comprehensive Arab unity.

Interior Minister on Security, GCC Cooperation

GF171509 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 16 Aug 84 p 1

[Text] In a statement to *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM*, Interior Minister Shaykh Nawwaf al-Ahmad affirmed yesterday that security prevails in Kuwait and that Kuwait welcomes honorable expatriates. The minister stated that he will begin surprise visits to several police stations to closely check the activities of the military and civil bodies associated with the ministry. He said he will visit Qatar in late September and will visit Tunis, Algeria, and Morocco after the conclusion of the GCC summit. He also said he will attend the conference of the Arab interior ministers which will be held under the aegis of the Arab League.

The minister welcomed any cooperation in Gulf security. He said this cooperation comes within the bilateral or collective Arab agreements which point out that this cooperation is designed to curtail security disturbances in these countries. He said that the doors of Kuwait will remain open and that it will adopt stringent measures toward troublemakers or those who desire to harm the security of the country.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM learned that Shaykh Nawwaf is currently undertaking a comprehensive assessment of the various security bodies in the country in accordance with the requirements and concerns of the ministers.

Cabinet Hears Reports on Visit of Congressman

LD191333 Kuwait KUNA in English 1231 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 19 (KUNA) — H.H. the crown prince and Premier Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah briefed the Cabinet this afternoon on the outcome of talks with visiting U.S. Congressman Steven Solarz, the Cabinet's acting Secretary-General Khalid Ahmad al-Hamad said. The talks dealt with Kuwait-U.S. relations, developments in the region and the United States' attitude toward Arab causes.

Later at the session, which was presided by H.H. the crown prince, the Deputy Premier, Foreign and Information Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad briefed the Cabinet on the visit here of Pakistan's foreign minister. In the course of a one-day visit, the Pakistani diplomat discussed means of developing bilateral relations in addition to developments of the Iraqi-Iranian war, Shaykh Sabah told the Cabinet.

The foreign minister also reported to the council on his discussions with the Indian foreign undersecretary who conveyed a message from Indian Premier Mrs Indira Gandhi, the current chairperson of the Nonaligned Movement. Earlier in the session, the ministers reviewed political affairs and latest developments in Arab and international platforms, Al-Ahmad said. The Cabinet endorsed minutes of the Ministerial Economic and Finance Committee and approved Kuwait's participation in a number of conferences.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Arrives for Visit

LD171858 Kuwait KUNA in English 1822 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 17 (KUNA) — Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan arrived here Friday evening for a 24-hour visit as part of a tour of three Gulf states. The Pakistani minister is scheduled to deliver a message from President Ziaul Haq to H.H. the amir, and hold talks with Kuwaiti officials before leaving for Qatar. Earlier, he had spent three days in the Saudi city of Jidda where he discussed regional developments with Saudi officials and chaired a meeting of his country's ambassadors in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states, Iraq and Iran. Khan was met by acting Foreign Ministry Protocol Director Hamad al-'Ubaydi who said General Zia's letter to H.H. the amir dealt with the regional situation and Kuwaiti-Pakistani relations, but gave no further details.

Leaders Receive Pakistani Minister

LD181111 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] His highness the amir of the land at 1000 today received the foreign minister of Pakistan, Sahabzada Yaqub Ali Khan, who handed his highness a message from His Excellency President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq. The meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign Minister and Minister of Information Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, and the ambassador of Pakistan to Kuwait. His highness the heir apparent and Prime Minister Shaykh S'ad al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, received in his office at 1030 (local) today the foreign minister of Pakistan, Sahabzada Yaqub Ali Khan, and the delegation accompanying him on the occasion of his visit to the country. The meeting was attended by the ambassador of Pakistan to Kuwait and the acting director of protocol at the Foreign Ministry, Hamad al-'Ubaydi.

Pakistani on Gulf War

GF191140 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0840 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Kuwait, 19 Aug (WAKH) — Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has affirmed his country's concern for the end of Iraq-Iran war. In an exclusive interview published today by the Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-QABAS*, Mr Sahabzada said that there are no special efforts being exerted by his government to end the war, but that the Islamic Good Offices Committee is currently studying this mission and the committee chairman will pay a visit in the future to each of the two warring countries in a serious attempt to limit the Iraqi-Iranian conflict.

Referring to his current tour of countries in the region, he said that this visit falls within his duties which will take him to a number of Arab countries. The Pakistani foreign minister said that his talks with Kuwaiti officials were positive and that they have concentrated on bilateral relations and Arab and international developments, particularly the developments of the Iraq-Iran war. In his interview, Mr Sahabzada affirmed that there cannot be peace in the region as long as Israel is occupying the Arab territories.

Received by Foreign Minister

LD181738 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Kuwait, 18 Aug (KUNA) — Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister, foreign minister and minister of information, had a meeting this morning with Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Ali Khan. Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad told KUNA that he discussed bilateral relations with the Pakistani minister, and they also discussed the situation in the region, especially developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war and ways to end it. Earlier today the deputy prime minister met with Indian Foreign Ministry Under Secretary Ramish Bandari, who is also visiting Kuwait.

Pakistani Minister Ends Visit

LD181742 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1711 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 18 Aug (KUNA) — Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan left the country this evening on his way to Doha after a 1-day official visit during which he conveyed to his highness the amir a message from Pakistani President Ziaul Haq concerning bilateral relations and the situation in the region.

Indian Diplomat Arrives From Iraq

LD181101 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0949 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Kuwait, 18 August (KUNA) — Romesh Bhandari, the Indian Foreign Ministry's under secretary for the Middle Eastern affairs arrived in Kuwait from Baghdad today on a short visit within the framework of a tour which will cover a number of other region countries. During his visit to Iraq, Bhandari delivered a message from the Indian Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi to the Iraqi President Saddam Husayn dealing with the efforts being exerted by the Nonaligned Movement for ending the war between Iraq and Iran.

Indian sources said yesterday that India, which is the current chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, has been carrying out quiet diplomatic steps with a view to bringing about an indirect dialogue between Baghdad and Tehran for ending the war. Bhandari visited Tehran last July and held talks with the Iranian officials on ending the 47-month-old war.

The Indian official's visit to Kuwait coincides with a visit by the Pakistani Foreign Minister Yaqub Ali Khan.

AL-WATAN Comments on U.S. Supplies to Iran

GF171521 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 16 Aug 84 p 1

[Editorial: "The Sky Does Not Rain Guns"]

[Text] That "secret supply line" that carries arms and spareparts to Iran from the United States, Israel, the NATO countries, or Latin America is no longer secret. Whatever the attempts to cover up and whatever the justifications, arms are usually linked to politics. The supervision of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency over this supply line that ferries arms and military hardware to Iran through Italy is proof of the intentions which the United States harbors toward the region.

It is not important whether Iran knows that such weapons are being consigned with the knowledge of the U.S. Government or not, for the result is the same. The principle is the same. There are no weapons that fall from Mars, and the sky does not rain spareparts or guns, nor do the waves carry warships that have been lost and that nobody knows where they came from.

News reports daily demonstrate the U.S. role in fanning the Iraqi-Iranian war, and who is the only party that stands to benefit from the attacks on oil tankers, the mining of the Red Sea, and the increase in tention? He who supplies weapons to Iran with one hand and supplies weapons to Iran's neighbors with the other hand on the pretext of protecting these countries, and increases arms sales at the expense of the peoples and countries of the region, is the party that stands to benefit from escalating tension in the area.

Will Iran pause a little and review its stands on the regional and international levels, and rearrange its relations in a manner that safeguards security, peace, and stability in the region — a region that greatly needs stability.

AL-WATAN Reports on U.S. Arms Smugglers Trial

GF171505 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 16 Aug 84 p 1

[Text] Rome — *AL-WATAN* has learned that a secret trial of a number of U.S. intelligence agents accused of smuggling U.S. arms to Iran during the 1981-84 period is being held in the Italian city of (?Turin). The Italian security services had this group, which includes scores of people, under surveillance and then arrested its members and referred them to (?Turin) court for trial. Investigations had shown that since the end of 1981 the group has been supplying Iran with spareparts for U.S. aircraft and tanks as well as artillery, air defenses, missiles, and other military equipment.

Investigations also show that it was agreed in 1983 that the group would smuggle [to Iran] M-60 tanks, helicopters, and 20 unused F-16 aircraft. Italian security forces estimate that arms contracts worth hundreds of millions of U.S. dollars have been concluded between U.S. and Iranian parties through this group.

The trial is being held in great secrecy because it reveals the U.S. role in the Iraqi-Iranian war, particularly as the members of the group who are being tried are S.S. intelligence service personnel and the size, type, and duration of the arms deals indicate that they could not have been ordinary commercial deals or ordinary smuggling. Both Tehran and Washington have been denying that there is any direct U.S. arming of Iran. The declared position of the United States is that it is neutral in the Iraqi-Iranian war.

AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM Rejects Foreign Stand on Arms Deal

GF181724 Manama WAKH in English 1620 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Manama, 18 Aug (WAKH) — Kuwaiti daily *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* rejected Saturday the implicit displeasure of certain quarters with the arms deal between Kuwait and the Soviet Union and said Kuwait was exercising its sovereign right when it decided to purchase Soviet weaponry to beef up its defense capabilities. The newspaper expressed astonishment over the fuss over the accord, saying Kuwait has the right to take appropriate measures to cope with developments in the region.

Given the abnormal situation in the region, a country has no option but to bolster its defense capabilities to face any contingencies the daily said. *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* pointed that Kuwait went to the Soviets for its arms requirements only after the U.S. failed to meet its demand for the Stinger missiles.

The paper said the deal confirmed Kuwait's balanced international relations and its policy of non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries. *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* noted that some superpowers not only failed to take action to stop the destructive war between Iran and Iraq but were working to fan the conflict and further exhaust the human and material resources of the two warring sides.

OMAN

Foreign Ministry Delegation Leaves for Romania

GF200806 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Sayf ibn Hamad al-Battashi, Foreign Ministry under secretary, and his accompanying delegation have left for the Socialist Republic of Romania. Prior to his departure, he made a statement to radio correspondents and journalists. He said that the purpose of his visit to the Socialist Republic of Romania is to participate in the 23 August National Day celebrations. He added that he will also seize the opportunity to hold talks with Romanian officials on bilateral relations.

Answering a question on the stance of the Sultanate on the incidents in the Red Sea, he said: The Sultanate supports the view that calls for consolidating stability in the Red Sea region in addition to ensuring freedom of navigation there.

He added: These incidents only shake security and impede international navigation.

The accompanying delegation includes His Highness Haykal ibn Tariq ibn Taymur, head of the European and American Affairs Department in the Foreign Ministry. He will be joined by Salim ibn Isma'il ibn Humayd, the sultanate's ambassador to Romania who resides there.

Sayf ibn Hamad al-Battashi, Foreign Ministry under secretary, and the accompanying delegation were seen off by a number of officials of the Foreign Ministry.

QATAR

Pakistani Foreign Minister Arrives in Doha

GF190646 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0520 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Doha, 18 Aug (WAKH) — Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan arrived in Doha this evening on a 3-day visit to Qatar. During the visit, the Pakistani official will hold talks with a number of Qatari officials on means to strengthen bilateral relations.

Delivers Ziaul Haq Message

GF191030 Doha QNA in Arabic 0920 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Doha, 19 Aug (QNA) — Amir of Qatar Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani has received a verbal message from Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq on a number of issues of mutual concern and on developments of the situation in the region, in addition to the firm relations between the two friendly countries and peoples. The verbal message was conveyed by Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, who is currently visiting Doha, during his meeting with the Amir of Qatar today. The Pakistani minister arrived in Doha last night on a 3-day visit to Qatar.

Pakistani Minister Departs Doha

GF200844 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0830 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Doha, 20 Aug (WAKH) — Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan left Doha today at the conclusion of a 3-day visit to Qatar. During the visit he conveyed a message from Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq to the Amir of Qatar His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani pertaining to issues of common interest, development in the region, and bilateral relations. The Pakistani ambassador was seen off by 'Ali ibn Ahmad al-Ansari, Qatari labor and social affairs minister, and the Pakistani ambassador to Qatar.

SAUDI ARABIA

Prince Sultan Outlines Defense Policy

LD190928 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0825 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Riyadh 19 Aug (SPA) — The second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation and inspector general, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz stressed that the Kingdom's defense policy is mainly based on nonaggression, support for peaceful endeavors, avoiding involvement in armed conflicts, and steering the Kingdom's force toward the defense of its independence and sovereignty, as well as the defense of Islamic holy places under the true and tolerant Islamic law.

His royal highness said that the Kingdom's Armed Forces are an inseparable part of the Arab and Islamic world's capabilities, and are always prepared to shoulder their responsibilities to defend just causes.

In a press statement published here today, his royal highness said that the Kingdom is moving in accordance with a military policy which relies on building up the Saudi combatant spiritually, mentally, and physically on the bases of modern sciences and modern military training and education refined by the spirit of the Koran and the purified prophetic teaching, so that the Saudi combatant becomes a Muslim strong in belief and faith and loyal to his noble message.

Regarding the Kingdom's arms policy, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan stressed that since the beginning of the era of His Majesty King 'Abd al-'Aziz, the Kingdom has deliberately equipped its Armed Forces from more than one source, and no change has occurred in this wise and astute policy, the cornerstone of which was laid by his majesty. He explained that the Armed Forces now include many prominent Saudi experts, each a specialist in his own field and weaponry. He pointed out that there are committees and bodies whose tasks are to monitor world arms development and analyze reports, studies, and specialists' recommendations, and send to the sources of those arms which are selected delegations to try them in practice way and test them more thoroughly.

Regarding the clamor raised by the Israeli enemy about the Kingdom's efforts to develop its Armed Forces and diversify its sources of armament, his royal highness the second deputy prime minister and minister of defense and aviation said that Israel knows of the extent of the Kingdom's concern about selecting advanced types of weapons, and this is why we find that all the capabilities of world Zionism are mobilized to hinder the Kingdom's efforts to exercise its legitimate right to develop its Armed Forces. World Zionism and its collaborators have succeeded in raising a clamor in the world about every major arms deal the Kingdom has made. However, thank God, the Kingdom is in a strong position and is able to purchase whatever it wants from the world's open markets without asking any favors. His royal highness stressed that whoever responds to Zionist pressures are the real losers in the end, because arms exports now constitute a vital element in the general income of industrialized countries, and the Kingdom is in the forefront of the arms-importing countries and able to pay in cash. His royal highness added that the Kingdom pays only secondary attention to the Israeli outcry, stressing that building its Armed Forces and backing them by every element of strength and competence is a matter in which the Kingdom persists without weariness.

At his press conference Prince Sultan also spoke of the occasional manuevers staged by the Saudi Armed Forces. He affirmed that these were extremely necessary due to the multiplicity of the weapons, which make it essential for the Armed Forces to intensify their training programs and apply coordination and control plans among their various sectors. He pointed out that for some time attention has been devoted to preparing training programs involving joint military operations and to study their points of weakness with a view to redressing them.

He affirmed that last year's Armed Forces program was good and promising. He hopes the Armed Forces will make further progress and have success so that they will always rise to the level of trust and expectation of their commanders and people.

He affirmed that these forces have been progressing with steady and studied steps under the guidance of the supreme commander of the Armed Forces, King Fahd ibn Abd al-'Aziz and his dutiful crown prince. Prince Sultan said that the Air and Naval Forces will shortly carry out joint exercises.

Prince Sultan then spoke of expansion plans for the Saudi Royal Naval Forces, pointing out that for over 10 years the Kingdom has been working on plans to expand these forces. Ten years ago the Kingdom had decided to build two principal naval bases — one on the east coast and the other on the west coast. King Khalid, may God have mercy on his soul, opened the King 'Abd al-'Aziz base at Al-Jubayl in 1982. On Tuesday, the day after tomorrow, King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz will open the King Faysal Naval Base at Jidda now that all its facilities have been completed, and the missile-firing ships and boats and landing vessels which the Kingdom had contracted about 7 years ago, have arrived.

Prince Sultan affirmed that with God's help, the Kingdom is continuing the implementation of the program for building its Naval Forces so that, God willing, the Kingdom will have two modern fleets — one operating at the King 'Abd al-'Aziz Naval Base at Jubayl and the other at the King Faysal Naval Base at Jidda.

He affirmed that the Kingdom's Armed Forces' growth and development plans have never been a reaction or in response to any particular action or the result of any sudden pressure or threat. They stem from the Kingdom's independent long-term will governed by logic and reason and their future programs are drawn on the basis of studies, discussions, examination, and the objective interpretation of events and their implications.

HRH Prince Sultan referred to the attention paid by the government to building arms factories in the Kingdom and its concern about coordinating the development of these factories with the development of the Kingdom's Armed Forces. HRH said that the Kingdon has achieved self-sufficiency in the sphere of providing its Armed Forces and other military sectors with light personal weapons.

HRH mentioned that plans are currencly under way to expand the sphere of the Saudi military factories' production, and the local manufacture of other weapons. He said that the Kingdom welcomes any constructive cooperation which is in the common interest.

Concerning the Iraq-Iran war, His Highness Prince Sultan expressed his deep regrets for the continuation of this war between two Muslim countries bound by religion and proximity.

'Arafat Welcomed on Arrival in Jidda

LD181438 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1425 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Jidda, 18 Aug (SPA) — Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, arrived here this afternoon for a visit to the Kingdom. He was welcomed on arrival by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud ibn 'Abd al-Muhsin, deputy amir of the Mecca region, Director of Jidda Royal Protocol 'Abd al-'Aziz Jikhdar, and a number of officials.

Fahd-'Arafat Meeting Reported

LD191830 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz this evening received PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, who was accompanied by Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf. The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the crown prince and deputy premier and comander of the national guard; His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy premier and minister of defense and aviation and inspector general; and His Royal Highness Prince Nayif ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, the minister of the interior.

'Arafat Makes Pre-Departure Statement

LD200447 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat left Jidda this evening after a 2-day visit to the Kingdom. He was seen off by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud ibn 'Abd al-Muhsin, deputy amir of the Mecca Region; the Fatah representative to the kingdom, Rafiq al-Natshah; a representative of the Royal Protocol Department, and a number of officials.

The PLO Executive Committee chairman stated to SPA prior to his departure that his meeting with his majesty the king during this visit was an important meeting, particularly in the current circumstances the Arab region is experiencing, especially the Palestinian issue. Yasir 'Arafat said that he had informed the king of the results of the Palestinian dialogue and the agreement reached in Aden and Algiers regarding the convening of the PNC. 'Arafat praised the great efforts being made by His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz about the Palestinian situation as a whole. He added that he had acquainted his majesty also with the efforts being made by the Islamic Good Offices Committee to halt the Iraq-Iran war, whose military committee was scheduled to meet yesterday. The meeting was postponed as both Turkey and Pakistan apologized for not being able to attend.

Pakistani Minister Meets Envoys in Middle East

BK161518 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] A conference of Pakistani envoys to the Middle Eastern countries, including Iran and Iraq, has begun in Jidda under the chairmanship of the foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan. Inaugurating the conference, the foreign minister reviewed the international situation, including the Iran-Iraq war, and Pakistan's relations with the countries of the region. He also highlighted the importance which Pakistan attaches to the closer ties with Gulf countries. The conference later began discussion on regional issues with special reference to the situation arising out of the Iran-Iraq war. Earlier, the deputy foreign minister of Saudi Arabia, Mr ('Abd al-'Aziz al-Senayan), called on Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and discussed with him bilateral issues and matters of mutual interest.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Departs

LD171715 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1630 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Jidda — The Pakistani Minister of Foreign Affairs Sahabzada Yaqub Khan left Jidda this evening after a 3-day visit to the Kingdom. He was seen off at the airport by Chief of Protocol at the Foreign Ministry Salim Sunbul and Pakistani Ambassador to the Kingdom Najim Saqib Khan.

Royal Decree Encourages Investment Among ICO

LD182021 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1845 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Jidda, 18 Aug (SPA) — A royal decree was issued endorsing an agreement on encouraging, protecting and safeguarding investments among ICO members. Following is the text of the royal decree:

With the support of God, we, Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, king of the Saudi Arabian Kingdom;

After examining items 19 and 20 of the Council of Ministers ruling issued by Royal Decree Number 38 dated 13 May 1958; and after examining the ICO's charter endorsed by Royal Decree Number M/7 dated 30 March 1972; and after examining the general agreement on economic, technical and trade cooperation among ICO members endorsed by Royal Decree Number M/40 dated 20 june 1979; and after examining the Council of Ministers Resolution Number 213 dated 9 June 1984; we have ordered the following:

1. The endorsing of an agreement on encouraging, protecting and safeguarding investments among ICO members in the form enclosed herewith.

2. It is the responsibility of the deputy prime minister and the ministers to execute all that pertains to this decree.

Admiral on New Jidda Navy Base

LD200417 Riyadh SPA in English 1917 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Jidda, Aug 19, SPA — Vice-Admiral Muhammad 'Abdallah al-'Ajlan, commander of King Faysal Naval Base in Jidda, said today the inauguration of the base by HM King Fahd on Tuesday reflected the Saudi monarch's concern to develop the Saudi Armed Forces and to follow up personally the progress of their projects. In a statement to SPA, Vice-Admiral al-'Ajlan said the base will be similar to King 'Abd al-'Aziz Naval Base in Al-Jubayl and that it will provide shelter to [the] Saudi fleet operating in the Red Sea.

The base personnel will hold a special show on activities of the Saudi Royal Navy and some new naval pieces will also take part in the show such as the big supply vessel, *Buryidah* which has been received by it recently. The base includes a dockyard, piers, maintenance workshops, stores, a yacht club, a school for boys and girls, mosques, a water desalination plant, a runway for jets and a residential complex for both families and bachelors. It also includes a polyclinic, a shopping center, a telephone exchange and a bank.

UAE

AL-KHALIJ Sees U.S., Israel Role in Red Sea Mines

GF191020 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0630 GMT 19 Aug 84

[From press review]

[Text] Ash-Shariqah, 19 Aug (WAM) — In its editorial today, *AL-KHALIJ* accused the United States, Israel, and the Western countries of being involved in the planting of mines in the waters of the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea to exploit the situation and thus increase their military presence.

The daily raised a number of questions which support this accusation and raised suspicions on the extent of this involvement. It said: Is it a mere coincidence that not a single mine has hit an Israeli or U.S. ship in the Red Sea? Is it merely a coincidence that the multinational "armada" has not detected a single mine so far, although it is described as being efficient and capable of detecting mines through light, sound, sonar, and radar?

The paper pointed out that there are only two things that have resulted from the Red Sea mines situation — the expansion of the Egyptian Ra's Banas base by the United States which will be under the disposition of the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force, and the Egyptian announcement on the expected long stay of the foreign fleets.

AL-KHALIJ also noted how the mysterious mine explosions coincided with the political rupture and economic crisis that Israel is facing for the first time in all the years that it usurped the Arab occupied territories in Palestine and with the flare-up of the Western fleets' presence in the Red Sea. The daily expressed astonishment that Israel is the most disinterested country on the subject of the mines, knowing that the Red Sea is its vein to Africa and Asia and that Egypt is the country which is the most disturbed on this issue.

The daily concluded its editorial by saying: Is it merely a coincidence that the primary Arab concern now is the security of navigation in the channels at a time when the Arabs are on the premises of a summit which is supposed to tackle challenges to the Arab nation, the challenge of the Zionist aggression, the challenge of the continuation of the Iraqi-Iranian war, and the challenge to overcome the bilateral differences which are rupturing the Arab body and rendering it powerless to the extent that it is almost falling to the bottom of the abyss?

Reportage on Mining of the Red Sea

Clearing of Mines Starts

NC172030 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Teams from the United States, Britain, and France, together with Egyptian naval units today began clearing the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea areas under the supervision of the Egyptian command. Engineer Muhammad 'Izzat 'Adil, Suez Canal authority director said today that the participation of the British, French, and U.S. units in searching for mines in the Gulf of Suez and Red Sea areas aims at making sure that the Suez Canal is free of any obstructions and to declare to the world that there is no danger to ships passing through the canal.

Press Observes Mine Search

NC180800 Cairo MENA in English 0748 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text]Cairo, 18 Aug (MENA)—The search for mines in Egypt's territorial waters in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Suez and a similar operation in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's territorial waters around the port of Jidda and close to it, began yesterday, reports *AL-AHRAM* in its leading front-page story. Reporting that the search for mines in the Gulf of Suez south of Al-Abadiyah harbour near Suez began last Thursday in its top billing and leading front-page story, *AKHBAR AL-YAWM* learns that the search in the northern section of the Gulf of Suez, the entry to the Suez Canal and the shipping lane in it will be completed within 48 hours and a report will be drawn up on it.

The paper says the search for mines in Saudi Arabia's territorial waters has been left to the U.S. Navy units participating in the survey of the Red Sea for mines. The survey being caried out by the Egyptian Navy, the paper further learns, will be extended southwards up to the Sudan border only.

AKHBAR AL-YAWM further reports that instructions were given to all units engaged in the search for mines, starting today, to retrieve any mines they might find so that their type and the country in which they were manufactured might be identified preliminary to political decisions being made against the party or parties who planted them.

British Navy units made a survey of the area of the Gulf of Suez south of Al-Adabiyah harbour last Thursday. This lasted for 90 minutes but failed to turn up any mines, and American helicopters made a short survey of the shipping lane of the Suez Canal but did not detect any unusual bodies in it, the paper added. Fifteen British frogmen will arrive in Cairo today to join the British Navy units in Al-Adabiyah harbour to help in retrieving any bodies that might be found in the Red Sea.

No Mines Yet Found

NC181538 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1445 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Suez, 18 Aug (MENA) — For the second day today British, U.S., and Egyptian minehunters are continuing their survey and mine clearing operations in the Gulf of Suez through the exploratory tours specified for each side. So far, these tours have not resulted in the discovery of any mines or metal devices in the Gulf of Suez. An Egyptian-U.S.-British coordination committee has been formed to follow up the clearing operations under the supervision of the Egyptian military command.

Four U.S. helicopter minehunters have carried out an inspection tour of the navigational passage of the Suez Canal as four British minehunters were starting their operations in the northern sector of the Gulf of Suez. British and French sources have said that the task of their minehunters will take a number of weeks. MENA has learned that when the clearing operations are completed, Egyptian Naval Forces will promptly assume complete control of the Gulf of Suez. Moreover, informed sources have said that reports that Egyptian Naval Forces have destroyed a sea mine in the Gulf of Suez are not true.

Meanwhile, the Suez Canal Authority has reported that there was a big increase in the number of ships that used the canal today: 69 ships including containers and super oil tankers passed through the canal — 40 of them in the direction of Suez and 29 in the direction of Port Said — a matter which indicates that shipping in the canal is proceeding normally.

AFP: USSR Minesweepers Reported

NC200808 Paris AFP in English 0803 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, Aug 20 (AFP) — Two Soviet minesweepers seen crossing the Suez Canal yesterday quit the Gulf of Suez today and were heading towards South Yemen, Egyptian port sources said. The sources said the two Soviet vessels would reach South Yemen within a few days. Informed sources here said other Soviet minesweepers have been combing the waters off South Yemen for several days. The Soviet Union has expressed concern over the presence of Western mine-hunters helping the Egyptian Navy clear mines in the Gulf of Suez.

Parliamentarian on Mining Objective

PM171317 Cairo ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 14 Aug 84 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Ahmad Mujahid: Strategic Aims of Red Sea Mining"]

[Text] Deputy Ahmad Mujahid, member of the parliamentary body, has told *ASH-SHA'B* in a comment on the Red Sea explosions that the mining of the Red Sea or the Suez Canal is a criminal and aggressive action. He said: I believe that the objective is not merely to sabotage, hinder shipping in the canal, or cause similar harmful damage. The objective is to achieve results of strategic nature, most important of which is to create a justification for a U.S.-Israeli naval presence in the Red Sea, particularly bearing in mind the fact that minelaying [as published] requires warships of a particular type.

With regard to "suspecting" Iran and Libya, he said: This is an unjustifiable suspicion. Indeed I believe that such suspicion distracts us from pursuing the actual perpetrator. It would involve Egypt in a conflict with Iran and entail undermining the attempts to reach an understanding between Egypt and Libya, in which the Egyptian opposition had made considerable progress.

U.S., Israeli Link Suggested

PM171303 Cairo ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 14 Aug 84 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Ibrahim Shukri Declares at Weekly Meeting: United States and Israel Not Far Removed From Red Sea Explosions"]

[Excerpt] [Socialist Labor Party Leader] Engineer Ibrahim Shukri said that the Arab area is witnessing serious events and systematic sabotage operations, the latest evidence of which was the ship that hit a mine in the Red Sea. He pointed to the detrimental effect this will have on Suez Canal traffic. All signs indicate that Israel and the United States are not far removed from these incidents. Israel is planning to build an alternative to the Suez Canal, while the United States is planning for a pipeline project across Africa. Shukri made this statement at the Socialist Labor Party's weekly meeting, which was attended by the party secretary for the media, Fu'ad Nushi.

Speaking about the mines that have reportedly been laid in the Suez Canal and the Red Sea, Engineer Ibrahim Shukri said: It is strange that this serious matter has not been given sufficient attention by the media other than some brief press reports which began with a statement by an official saying that the Suez Canal is free of mines. Yet shortly afterward we read a report about another ship hitting a mine off the Red Sea's Saudi coastline and suffering heavy damage. We also read a statement by Mondale supporting Reagan's decision to send minesweeping helicopters to clear the Suez Canal and the Red Sea. Therefore, serious events and systematic sabotage operations are taking place in the area that could have a detrimental effect on Suez Canal revenue, particularly in the light of the fact that Israel is planning an alternative to the Suez Canal, linking the Mediterranean to the Red Sea.

Also, for its part the United States is planning a pipeline project for Saudi Arabia that will link its oilfields to the Atlantic across Africa. This is a very costly project and will have a negative effect on Suez Canal revenue. We would have accepted this project had it been beneficial for the Arab countries and their peoples, but since it represents sabotage of the Suez Canal and the Red Sea, on which coasts lie the Arab countries, we reject it. We should pay attention to this matter to ensure that ships are not diverted to another route, particularly in view of the abundance of giant tankers which could also become a competitor for the Suez Canal because of their low operating costs. Instead, we should exploit these tankers to activate traffic in the canal by using the [Sumed] pipeline on Egypt's Mediterranean coast to transport to Alexandria for reshipment shipments that exceed the canal's capacity. We insist that this matter be put clearly and unequivocally to the public.

Mines Termed 'Mere Bubbles'

NC171417 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Usamah 'Abd al-Ghani commentary: "Mines in the Waters, But Vis-a-Vis the Egyptian Will, the Mines Are Mere Bubbles"]

[Text] The mining of the Red Sea contravenes all international laws, norms, and pacts. It is a criminal act because it does not harm Egypt's security and economy as much as it harms the security and economy of international society. However, this criminal act will neither provoke us nor force us to react the way a certain country has wanted us to react — a country that has dared to carry out an act related to the affairs of Egypt which is the strongest country in the area.

Initial results of the investigation have revealed that what has taken place is beyond the capability of any terrorist organization that claims responsibility for it, and that it required capabilities that are only available to countries. Accusing fingers have been pointed at two countries — one is known as practicing terrorism as an official policy; and the other is known to be passing through desperate circumstances. It is premature to disclose who has carried out this crazy act. However, at the appropriate time he will realize the consequences of his act. Nevertheless, the damage resulting from this filthy operation is extremely light; our territorial waters are completely free of explosives and shipping has been normal in the Suez Canal. Egypt has taken measures ensuring that such acts will not be repeated and that the pilgrims' passage to Mecca will be safe. However, there is a fact which this act creates, namely, that the security of the Red Sea is primarily an Arab responsibility, and that the time has come for the formulation of a clear Arab strategy in which the Red Sea Arab littoral states will participate.

The Arabs have not forgotten that in October 1973 they adhered to a strategy that shocked the area and the entire world. Egypt, with its status and resources is a strong support for the Arab nation. This is known to everyone. Even those who criticize Egypt and cast doubts about it know that there is not a single state in the area that can occupy Egypt's position. Arab Egypt's leadership was not attained by speeches, slogans, or plots. This leadership is a destiny linked with persistent work and a historical and civilized status. Egypt, which has spent billions of pounds for the sake of the issues of the Arabs and the Palestinians and which has lost thousands of its sons, has not been shaken and will not be shaken by some explosions in the Red Sea. Whether it is proven that what has taken place was the result of mines or explosive devices, we have become accustomed to taking the worst consequences in our stride. Irrespective of what the result will be regarding what has taken place, vis-a-vis the Egyptian will the result will be mere bubbles which will disappear as soon as they are mentioned. This is not a figure of speech but a fact. He who speaks about Egypt will be speaking about its people who vanquished the Tartars, defended Arabism, eliminated the crusades, and stopped the Zionist tide. This is a matter we will leave for history to decide on in the future.

MAY Accuses Iran, Libya

NC200529 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0415 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] The newspaper *MAY*, the mouthpiece of the ruling Egyptian party, has again accused Iran and Libya of being involved in the mining of the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea. It said that Iran carried out the operation in a bid to divert attention from its losses in the war against Iraq, and to bring pressure on the Gulf states to force them to stop supporting Iraq. On Libya's involvement, *MAY* said that Tripoli had participated in the mining operation in view of its alliance with the Iranian regime.

AL-AKHBAR on Rafsanjani Threat

NC190545 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0420 GMT 19 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Egypt Respects Its Agreements With the World Countries", *AL-AKHBAR* points to the remarks of Hojjat ol-Islam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Iranian Majlis, in Friday's sermon that Iran threatens to take measures that will prevent its ships passing through the Suez Canal from being intercepted and that it will take similar actions in the Hormuz Straits against other countries if its ships are searched in the Gulf of Suez.

The paper says: What we want to say, without any excitement, is that there is no justification for the remarks by the Iranian Majlis speaker about the Egyptian measure of searching every suspicious ship in the Suez Canal, because this is an act of Egyptian sovereignty over its waters. It is a right that no one denies. This right has been confirmed by all international treaties and charters and by the conventions agreed on by states before the appearance of international law.

Concluding its editorial, *AL-AKHBAR* stresses that all Egypt's measures stem from a respect for all its pledges. They are not directed against anyone. All that Egypt wants — and this is known to everybody, including Iran — is justice and peace. Will the Hojjat ol-Islam continue to argue after this?

'Abd al-Majid Interviewed on Mines, Other Issues

NC181535 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1420 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Paris, 18 Aug (MENA) — Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid has said that Egypt is ready to participate in a conference to be attended by the Red Sea Arab littoral countries to reach an understanding on unified steps to ensure security in the Area. He said Egypt welcomes joint Arab action to guarantee security in the Red Sea area. In a statement to the Paris-based Arabic weekly *AL-MUSTAQBAL*'s 18 August issue, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that the Red Sea's magnitude and economic and strategic importance is ever increasing, particularly since the Gulf countries have begun implementing a plan to find a route other than the Hormuz Strait and to depend more than ever on the Red Sea to export oil.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid affirmed that Egypt will prevent vessels of any country from passing through the Suez Canal if this country threatens Egypt's security and safety. He pointed to the Constantinople agreement which governs the freedom of navigation in the Suez Canal. He said Article 10 provides that Egypt enjoys the power to close the canal to ships that threaten Egypt's security.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid asserted that international navigation through the Suez Canal has not been affected by the planting of the mines, that the number of ships passing through the canal has not been reduced, and that the daily rate of ships passing through the canal is 60. He emphasized that Egypt has a plan to confront all eventualities, referring to the parties who planted the mines or who wanted to make an attempt.

In response to a question on whether there are contacts or coordination with Saudi Arabia or other Arab Red Sea littoral countries, 'Abd al-Majid said: There are contacts with certain Arab countries on this issue. Several Arab countries feel concerned over the developments of this issue.

Regarding Egyptian-Arab relations, 'Abd al-Majid said that Egypt does not impose preconditions for the return of these relations, but, at the same time, it does not accept that preconditions be imposed on it. He said: We do not want to rush things. We are moving to bring about togetherness [talaqi] with the Arab countries, but we do not want to embarrass anyone.

He pointed out that Egypt welcomes the re-establishment of full diplomatic relations with any Arab country that wants this. He added that the Arab ambassadors can return to Cairo with the Israeli Embassy remaining there. He reaffirmed that Egypt will not give up its international commitments and that it will honor them.

Asked his assessment of the domestic situation in Israel, particularly following the Israeli Knesset elections, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said Israel is facing big problems, primarily the Lebanese problem, and it must choose solutions. He said that Israel must appreciate the value of peace, and must realize that peace is important to it because it may help solve some of its problems.

Asked if he believes that Shimo'n Peres will propose plans to stimulate the peace process if he manages to form an Israeli Cabinet, 'Abd al-Majid said that Egypt will watch what Peres will do if he is able to form a Cabinet. We will then see the extent of his talks and ability to fulfil his word.

In his statement to *AL-MUSTAQBAL*, 'Abd al-Majid reasserted Egypt's stand on returning the Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv. This depends on three things — the need to draft a timetable for the Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon; the need to solve the pending Tabah problem between Egypt and Israel; and the need to stimulate the Palestinian issue and not to impede the peace efforts.

Concluding his statement, 'Abd al-Majid emphasized that the issue of transferring the American Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem is a serious and grave issue. He said Egypt informed the U.S. Administration of its stand on this action. We stressed the need for utmost efforts to prevent the implementation of this step, 'Abd al-Majid said.

Mubarak Receives Message From Jordan's Husayn

NC191103 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1035 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 19 Aug (MENA) — 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, minister of the Royal Jordanian Court, stated after a 2-hour meeting with President Husni Mubarak today that he handed President Mubarak a message from King Husayn related to Arab issues within their pan-Arab and international context. Abu 'Awdah said a number of points related to bilateral relations were discussed during the meeting. He described relations between Egypt and his country as being very normal.

The president's meeting with 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah was attended by Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and head of the Presidential Office for Political Affairs.

'Ali Receives Abu 'Awdah

NC201052 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1010 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Alexandria, 20 Aug (MENA) — Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali today received a verbal message from Jordanian Prime Minister Ahmad 'Ubaydat. The message was conveyed by Jordanian Royal Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, who was received by 'Ali today.

Abu 'Awdah said the message dealt with several joint issues that would consolidate bilateral cooperation in various spheres. Asked when relations between Egypt and the Arab states will be restored, he said he has only one thing to say; namely, that Egypt's Arab role is fundamental and vital. Asked how obstacles to the restoration of Arab-Egyptian relations could be removed, he said he does not have an answer to this question.

The Jordanian minister arrived in Cairo yesterday and was received by President Husni Mubarak, to whom he conveyed a message from King Husayn dealing with various Arab issues.

Al-Baz on Support for International Conference

NC201240 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, has stated that Egypt supports the idea of an international conference on peace [in the Middle East] and welcomes the participation of the UN Security Council permanent member-states, in addition to the parties directly concerned with the conflict. Egypt, however, believes that it is not right to wait until the conference is convened, but that work must continue so that Israel will not seize the opportunity to consolidate its occupation and effectively annex the occupied territories.

Al-Baz said that cooperation between Egypt and some states is steadily progressing and that Egypt works to see that there are no contradictions between it and any Arab state. He said that there is an Arab conviction that Egypt's line serves the objectives of safeguarding the [Arab nation's] strategic interests and Arab security in its comprehensive concept. Egypt believes in the need for Israel's withdrawal from the occupied territories and from Lebanon and for the restoration of Palestinian rights. He expressed the hope that the overall Arab situation will improve after the stands of the parties concerned become clear by the end of this year.

Electricity Protocol Signed With Soviet Union

NC191409 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1330 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 19 Aug (MENA) — Egypt and the Soviet Union today signed a protocol for cooperation in the area of electricity. According to the protocol, the Soviet Union will provide R10 million — the equivalent of 3.7 Egyptians pounds — in supplies and equipment needed to carry out the national program for providing electricity to the Egyptian countryside during the coming 18 months. The protocol was signed on the Soviet side by Edmond A. Shakhnazaryan, Soviet charge d'affairs in Cairo, and on the Egyptian side by Engineer Zahir Zayd, director of the Rural Electrification Authority.

After the protocol was signed, Engineer Mahir Abazah, minister of electricity and energy, said that Egyptian-Soviet cooperation in the area of energy is an example of creative and fruitful cooperation between the two countries, adding that this cooperation has been going on for 25 years. Meanwhile, the Soviet charge d'affairs confirmed his country's readiness to supply equipment needed by the Ministry of Electricity and Energy to implement some of the 5-year plan projects. The equipment will be supplied within the framework of traditional friendship between Egypt and the Soviet Union.

Engineer Zahir Zayd said the protocol falls within the 1971 Egyptian-Soviet agreement, according to which Egypt is to receive R60 million in easy terms — the equivalent of 23.25 million Egyptian pounds — to carry out the national program for providing electricity to rural areas. Engineer Zayd added that R50 million in supplies and equipment have already been furnished during the past years.

Mubarak Instructs New Ambassador to Moscow

NC190823 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0745 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 19 Aug (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received at Al-'Urubah Palace this morning Ambassador Salah Basyuni, the new Egyptian ambassador in Moscow. Ambassador Salah Basyuni stated that President Mubarak gave him instructions within the framework of Egypt's endeavor to establish normal relations of friendship with the Soviet Union within the context of Egypt's policy as a Nonaligned Movement country.

In a statement he made following his meeting with the president, Ambassador Salah Basyuni said that the establishment of normal relations with the Soveit Union falls within the context of principles adhered to by Egyptian policy in its relations with the various countries of the world and also within the context of

Egypt's respect for the principles of a country's dealings with another country. Ambassador Basyuni is scheduled to leave next Thursday for Moscow to assume his new post.

Economic Delegation Leaves for USSR, DPRK

NC191740 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1725 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 19 Aug (MENA) — Husayn Ahmad Husayn, Economy Ministry under secretary for commercial representation affairs, left Cairo for Moscow today leading a delegation of Egyptian businessmen and exporters on a week-long visit to the Soviet Union.

During this visit, Husayn will hold talks with senior Soviet officials aimed at stimulating bilateral trade exchange. He will also discuss the measures relevant to the contract on the remaining commodities of the 1984 protocol estimated at approximately 100 million pounds sterling. Husayn is scheduled to pay a similar visit to the DPRK following his visit to the Soviet Union for talks with officials on increasing trade exchange.

Mamduh Salim Leaves for Bucharest Celebrations

NC190707 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0605 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 19 Aug (MENA) — Presidential Assistant Mamduh Salim and his delegation left Cairo for Bucharest this morning to participate in the celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of Romania's national day, which falls on Thursday. In a statement prior to his departure, Salim said that he will convey President Mubarak's heartfelt congratulations and those of the Egyptian people to President Nicolae Ceausescu and the Romanian people. He added that Egypt is always anxious to share Romania's national day celebrations due to the strong ties that bind the two countries.

Military Communiques Report Recent Operations

1,560: Iran Shells Shandri

JN171620 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Communique No 1,560 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 17 August 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The valiant soliders of Iraq and of the Arab nation continue their courageous activities in the operational sectors against the forces of the covetous Iranian enemy. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. One of our forward units used all types of weapons to pound a group of enemy soldiers opposite its positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, inflicting losses in life and equipment on the enemy.

2. Our forward units shelled several enemy positions, weapons emplacements, and military hardware in the operational sector east of Basra, scoring direct hits and setting fire to them.

3. One was killed in the central sector of the battlefield.

4. The criminals who are ruling in Iran shelled the Basra and Shandri suburbs last night and this morning. Some damages were sustained as a result of the enemy shelling.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 17 August 1984.

Communique No 1,561

JN181622 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Communique No 1,561 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 18 August 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave forces are continuing their valiant operations on the front against the suspect Iranian enemy forces. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. Using artillery and other weapons, our courageous forces pounded a number of selected enemy targets in the central sector, destroying one hardware stockpile and one weapons emplacement, killing those manning it.

2. Enemy positions and troop concentrations were shelled east of Basra. Our forces scored effective hits, causing fire to break out in enemy positions.

3. One hardware stockpile was destroyed in the Maysan sector.

4. At 0230 yesterday the mean enemy shelled the suburbs of Shandri with heavy artillery. Thirteen shells fell on the town's suburbs.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 18 August 1984

Communique No 1,562

JN191615 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Communique No 1,562 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 19 August 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

Our brave Armed Forces continued their successful activities in the operational sectors against the forces of the criminal Khomeyniite enemy. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units fired on several enemy positions and vehicles opposite our positions in the northern sector of the battlefield, scoring accurate hits and starting several fires in the enemy positions and equipment.

2. One of our forward units opened artillery fire on enemy positions and troop concentrations opposite our positions in the operational area east of Basra, scoring effective hits and inflicting losses in men and equipment.

3. One enemy infantry position was destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 19 August 1984

'Aziz Comments on Gulf War, Egyptian Relations

NC180713 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0605 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo, 18 Aug (MENA) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, described the Egyptian initiative on ending the Iran-Iraq dispute as positive. He said it is necessary to use Egypt's Arab and international weight and its influence in the Nonaligned Movement to exert pressure toward peace.

In an interview published today by the weekly *AKHBAR AL-YAWM*, the Iraqi minister says Egypt has exerted very good efforts. Tariq 'Aziz again expresses his country's desire to establish peace through an Egyptian or any other initiative. He stresses that Iran's rejection of peace means that neither the Egyptian nor any other initiative will attain its goal.

'Aziz criticizes the attitude of some Arab states toward the Gulf war. He reaffirms that Syria is Iran's ally and therefore cannot play a positive role in establishing a balance between the Iraqi and Iranian stands and, hence, it cannot play a mediating role in the war.

Regarding his country's relations with Syria, 'Aziz says a meeting had been arranged between the Iraqi and Syrian foreign ministers some time ago, but that Syria refused to establish normal relations with Iraq and solve the problems between them.

The Iraqi foreign minister also criticizes the stand of some UAE members on the Iraq-Iran conflict. He stresses that some emirates deal with Iran in a disgraceful manner, contravening national standards.

In his interview, 'Aziz denies that Iraq has withdrawn 20,000 soldiers from the southern front. He says Iraq has not withdrawn a single soldier from the front, but that on the contrary, it is increasing and strengthening the military mobilization. He adds: We never discounted the possibility of an Iranian offensive. We are preparing militarily as if the offensive is definitely going to take place.

'Aziz further says: In all objectivity, we believe the strategic conflict with Iran has ended in the interest of Iraq because the Iranian expansionist plan against Baghdad has failed in the face of Iraq's military steadfastness, its ability to mobilize its human and economic resources, and its ability to employ its political capacities against the Iranian plan.

In conclusion, 'Aziz deals with Egyptian-Iraqi relations, saying that Iraq has no reservations regarding relations with Egypt. He emphasizes that relations are very normal and that cooperation, political, and joint actions continue in all areas.

Tariq 'Aziz Confers With British Visitor

JN182012 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1735 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Aug (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has met with British House of Commons member Julian Amery, who is now visiting Iraq. They reviewed the current international situation. Tariq 'Aziz explained developments in the war launched by the Iranian regime against Iraq and its negative effects on the region.

Tariq 'Aziz Receives Indian Official 19 Aug

JN191323 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1120 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 19 aug (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, this morning received Romesh Bhandari, Indian Foreign Ministry under secretary who is currently visiting Iraq.

During the meeting they reviewed the situation in the region, developments in the war the Iranian regime is waging against Iraq, and issues pertaining to the Nonaligned Movement.

The meeting was attended by Muhammad Sa'id as-Sahhaf, foreign ministry under secretary; the head of the ministry's second international department; and the Indian ambassador in Baghdad.

Ramadan Receives Finnish Delegation 19 Aug

JN191717 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1210 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Aug (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, this morning received (Plof Sownd Kafist), the Finnish Government's special envoy, and his delegation. Taha Yasin Ramadan received a written message from the Finnish prime minister on bilateral relations and Finland's desire to promote its relations with Iraq.

Taha Yasin Ramadan reviewed the latest developments in the Iraqi-Iranian war and both Iraq's peaceful stands and its welcome for all efforts to end the war. He asserted the Iraqis' great ability to defend their own land and sovereignty, no matter how long the war continues.

The two sides discussed bilateral relations and prospects of developing and expanding them in the interest of the two friendly peoples.

The Finnish ambassador in Baghdad attended the meeting.

UNIDO Adopts Iraqi Resolution To End War

JN200710 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0520 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Vienna, 20 Aug (INA) — Iraq scored a great success at dawn today when the fourth UNIDO general conference adopted an Iraqi draft resolution calling for an end to the Iraqi-Iranian war.

The resolution was adopted despite the alliance between the delegations of the Zionist enemy and the Iranian regime and their repeated attempts to foil it.

The resolution was adopted during the final session of the conference, which lasted from yesterday evening until dawn today, and was supported by 44 countries. Only Iran opposed it.

The resolution deals with the effects of the war on the financial and human resources of both countries — resources that can be exploited to realize speedy industrial progress. The resolution asks the member countries to spare no effort to end the war, and it urges the governments of the countries concerned with the war to reach a just, honorable settlement of the dispute either through direct negotiations or through mediation.

Message on Nuclear Reactors Distributed

JN180927 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0830 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] United Nations, 18 Aug (INA) — Iraq's permanent UN representative has called on the United Nations to do its best to prevent the Zionist entity from exercising its hostile policy of striking at nuclear reactors and jeopardizing world peace and security.

In a message addressed to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and distributed here today as an official document, Dr Riyad al-Qaysi indicated that the Zionist entity attacked the Iraqi nuclear reactor on 7 June 1981 despite this reactor's peaceful nature, thus ignoring international law and the IAEA resolutions.

Iraq's representative stressed that Israel's reply to the UN secretary general's remark about the Iraqi reactor completely disregarded a UN General Assembly resolution calling on Israel to immediately withdraw its threat to attack and destroy nuclear installations in Iraq and other countries.

ATH-THAWRAH Notes Increase in Army Enlistment

JN180631 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0517 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Aug (INA) — *ATH-THAWRAH* newspaper has said that increasing numbers of Iraqi youths are now joining military colleges and institutes. It stresses that preparatory school graduates are rushing to join these colleges and institutes in an unprecedented manner, even during peacetime.

In an analysis of this phenomenon it published today, the paper adds that the number of candidates who applied to military colleges and institutes this year was tens of times greater than the required number, a matter which forced the competent authorities to enact certain controls in an attempt to alleviate this pressure. It points out that this enthusiasm reflects confidence, optimism, and a splendid rush to defend Iraq.

Within this context, the paper indicates the huge development of the Iraqi Army. It says that completely new military divisions and Army corps in terms of forces, equipment, and weapons have been established during wartime. It adds that the number of Iraqi Army personnel has more than doubled; that the Army has made a major leap in the field of armament, training, and possession of the most modern and sophisticated weapons; and that 600,000 Popular Army fighters have joined the regular forces.

Concluding, the paper says that the new Iraqi generation proves by its outlook that it does not agree to play a marginal role in the new society, but insists on carrying arms and standing on the first line of confrontation against the enemies.

Moroccan Official Signs Agreement, Departs

JN180938 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0900 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Aug (INA) — Abdelouahed Radi, Moroccan official in charge of cooperation at the Prime Ministry, ended a 3-day visit to Iraq and left Baghdad today. During his visit, the Moroccan official presided over the meetings of the second session of the Iraqi-Moroccan ministerial committee for economic and scientific cooperation.

The meetings were concluded by signing the minutes for expanding and developing the volume of trade exchange between the two countries.

Envoy Notes Romania's Middle East Stands

JN191326 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1105 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Aug (INA) — Romanian Ambassador in Baghdad Mihail Diamandopol has stated that his country supports any proposal or initiative that will halt the Iraq-Iran war.

At a news conference here today on the 40th anniversary of the Romanian people's revolution, which falls on Thursday, Diamandopol said that relations between Iraq and Romania enjoy a distinguished standing and are based on a joint political and historical background as well as joint military relations.

The Romanian ambassador expressed his country's anxiety over the situation in the Middle East. He said that Israel's actions will complicate the situation in the region. He added that his country is working to attain a just and peaceful settlement in the Middle East.

AP Cited on 18 Aug Tanker Fire in Gulf

JN181126 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1108 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Manama — AP says that fire broke out 160 kms east of Bahrain at dawn today in one of the tanks of an oil tanker believed to be of Panamanian registration. The agency adds that Manama shipping sources received a fire signal from the abovementioned tanker. However, no details are yet available on the incident.

Youth Minister, Delegation Depart for ROK

JN191220 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0930 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Aug (INA) — Youth Minister Nuri Faysal Shahir left Baghdad for Seoul today at the head of an Iraqi delegation on a visit to ROK. The Iraqi minister said that he will hold talks with ROK officials on ways to promote bilateral cooperation, and will sign a protocol for cooperation in the sphere of sports and youth activities. He added that he will become acquainted with the ROK's acheivements in the sphere of sports and youth activities, as well as the ROK's preparations for hosting the next Olympic games in Seoul in 1988.

King Husayn Grants Interview to CNN in Amman

JN192015 Amman Television Service in English
2017 GMT 18 Aug 84

["Full recording" of interview with King Husayn by unidentified Cable News Network correspondent in Amman — date not given; video recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] We are coming to you this evening from the Hashemite Royal Court at the Basman Palace in Amman, Jordan. My guest is His Majesty King Husayn, king of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. Your Majesty, I am so glad that we are able to have this conversation.

[King Husayn] Thank you very much. It's a very great pleasure for me to welcome you through Amman, and I hope that I'll be able to help.

[Correspondent] I hope you'll be able to, particularly for the Middle East. So many people have so many questions, and it has been said time and time again that Jordan is the people to point, that King Husayn is the man who would be able to get the peace talks moving. And many people wonder on why you have been reticent.

[Husayn] This is unfortunately not the correct assessment of the situation in this part of the world. As far as the establishment of a just and durable peace in this area, it has been my dearest wish throughout life —and will continue to be to the end —to be able to contribute towards it in any way that I can. But we have been as positive as we could, as constructive as we could throughout the many years that had passed since we formulated with the United States jointly Security Council Resolution 242 in the wake of the devastating war of 1967. That resolution had a very simple formula: total withdrawal for total peace, the recognition of the rights of all to live in peace and security in the area. And, obviously, maybe a missing element is the fact that it did not deal with the Palestinian problem as such.

But since then we have accepted every initiative. We have sought to formulate initiatives, and if we have not succeeded, it is not really because of any reluctance on our side to do what was possible. We believe that peace is not brought about by factors of power, but by a feeling on both sides that we would have achieved something that is worth keeping and defending. That is a psychological frame of mind. That's a feeling that is in the interest of all to preserve a peace that has to be founded on proper foundations. Unfortunately, this hasn't been possible. It hasn't been our fault that this has been the case.

[Correspondent] When you had a meeting with Chairman 'Arafat of the PLO, it was reported in the United States that the subject of Resolution 242 came up at the meeting and that you were trying to encourage him to recognize that resolution. And, as you mentioned, the Palestinians are not mentioned in it. It is said that of all of the Arab states and Israel that they would have recognition and the right of exist. Chairman 'Arafat said that you did not speak about that at your meeting and he also said that he would not recognize it because it does not mention the Palestinians. So, therefore, is there a need for another resolution in the United Nations? There are so many avenues that have been explored. Which one —because I am sure you have explored every one of them —which one of them do you feel would work?

[Husayn] I feel that 242 is the foundation, and obviously the missing elements have to be introduced at some stage or another. And my feeling is that probably an international conference is the way towards solving this problem, with the participation of all parties to the conflict. Palestinians must be involved in any solution to the Palestinian problem. And I've been thinking seriously that probably the way out would be the participation of the five permanent members of the Security Council of the United Nations. In any event, if we speak of 242, then the Security Council of the United Nations has a role in terms of its being the guarantor of whatever is achieved.

We had worked over many many years with our friends in the United States. We had laid hopes on the United States and its ability to play a vital role. We still believe that it must and it can in establishing peace, but unfortunately we have also seen over these years an erosion of the United States' position from the 1967 period when we were under the impression that 242 would be implemented in 6 months from its adoption and peace established to this present time.

Israel has done much in the occupied territories to change demographically and in every other respect the shape of this land. Israel claims it that it has annexed parts of the occupied territory. And Israel has the material, military, political, moral support of the United States to the point when the United States has become a strategic ally of Israel. This, unfortunately, has been to the detriment of the United States in terms of its ability to be the peacemaker, the side that is neutral and objective.

And, on the other hand, there are other realities. The Soviets are in the area. I believe they will be opposed to any attempt to move towards a solution without recognizing the fact that they also are involved and would like to be involved in that. And there are others who are concerned about what might happen in this area in terms of the damage not only to all who live within it, but maybe to world peace. So why not get everybody together to try to move ahead?

[Correspondent] Recently the Soviets have once again called for an international conference, and this is something that's been talked about for years but has never happened. It almost begins to look like a faraway dream that cannot happen. There are so many things in the Middle East that seem to be that way. The Soviets call for an international conference. It has been said that the United States and Israel do not want an international conference. The Israelis do not want to recognize the PLO as the spokesgroup for the Palestinians; they want someone else to represent the Palestinians. The PLO will not recognize Israel's right to exist. We have so many conflicting strong sides that one begins to lose hope.

[Husayn] This is the great concern that I have — that we are fast approaching, if we have not reached, the psychological moment when, regardless of whether the situation will explode in this area now or at any time in the future, people may lose hope, never achieving peace on the proper foundations that could last. And this is a very distressing factor that we are living with at this stage in time.

[Correspondent] It was reported in the United States that you have said if something is not done right now, at this moment in history, I am afraid it will be too late.

[Husayn] This is my fear, indeed.

[Correspondent] And I am sure you have implored different governments and have told them this directly as well as through the press.

[Husayn] I have, over a very long period of time. And to come back to the question you asked first — why are we reluctant? — we are not reluctant. Let's take the recent initiative of President Reagan. It was shot down by the Israelis immediately by their rejection of it and by the settlement activities which intensified in the occupied territories with American material help, directly or indirectly. And obviously the crisis in Lebanon and the situation elsewhere. So, we are really at a point where I think, sadly and justifiably, we say that the United States has lost its credibility with us, lost it in the area, to be the sole mediator, the peace maker. And for the question to be posed to us why are we reluctant, well, we have no understanding with the United States on what the foundations for peace should be, as we had clearly in 1967 when 242 was adopted. Even the settlements which are illegal, were illegal, now are an impediment to peace, and the Israelis claim the land for themselves. So, to expect Jordan to be involved with uncertainties in that respect against Israel, which we cannot define in terms of its territory, or its size, or its shape, and the United States, which supports Israel, we would be taking on Israel, the United States, the Soviets, the Arabs, the Palestinians. That would be too much for this little country to face up to. And maybe even some Jordanians who would say: Well, why? Therefore, we have time against us, the need to go back to the foundations, to the principles that must be applied, then the inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by war, the preamble of Security Council Resolution 242: Territory for peace, total withdrawal for total peace. We have not changed. We have always been ready, but where are we from achieving that objective?

[Correspondent] And what do you need from the United States now to be able to achieve that?

[Husayn] I do not know why the United States should continue to insist that it should be the sole peacemaker in this very difficult situation. Why an international conference that involves all the parties to the conflict, including the Palestinians, and the same time even, possibly, the five permanent members of the Security Council could not be the way out? The United States will play its role. Others who feel that they have a role to play would be involved in a constructive way, and we could make progress. But continuous objection to that is wasting time and creating new realities that are going to make it almost impossible to see how peace could ever be achieved.

[Correspondent] In the Arab states, is the United States now losing ground? and when I say ground, I mean credibility, which is a word that you have brought up. Are they losing it to the Soviet Union?

[Husayn] I think they are losing it altogether. Maybe this is not an accurate description, because some in the United States would say that the United States' interests are maintained in the area. But there are very touchy subjects. If we take Jerusalem, for example, it is true; it is sad. In 1951, when I assumed responsibilities, I found the situation that had prevailed since the fighting of 1948-49. People of the Jewish race could not reach the Wailing Wall. But, on the other hand, that was part of an agreement I reached during the armistice negotiations —that Christian Arabs should have the right to visit Nazareth. Well, neither happened for 17 years. But now it is also 17 years since Israel occupied the West Bank and Jerusalem. And for hundreds of millions of Muslims throughout the world, they haven't been able to carry out their religious tradition of visiting Mecca, Medina, and Jerusalem. And when Jerusalem becomes an issue in an election campaign in the United States, this is devastating. I believe that there are very, very sensitive subjects that are being approached by a very dangerous way. And I would be remiss to say that the United States has not lost a lot of credibility in the area; it has. And that this is to me a source of great pain really.

[Correspondent] And have the Soviets picked up credibility?

[Husayn] The Soviets may have picked up credibility. At least the Soviets have continuity, which is not the case with our friends in the United States in terms of the foreign policy towards this area, with the constant changes domestically that affect the area in every respect and every way.

[Correspondent] I posed a question to you. I said I would like to talk a little bit more when we were returned about your thoughts about the American administrations. I guess it even goes to the fact of a 4-year term for a president in the possibility of reelection. One thing I have learned in traveling in the Middle East is that many leaders of the Middle East fear that this has been very detrimental to the United States because they are not clear on their policy. We have had so many changes in the last 20 years.

[Husayn] Well, this is indeed the case in Amman. We have obviously the problem of a continuous change in the United States in terms of Congress, its impact on foreign policies now and over the last few years, but also the presidential elections and the domestic political factions within the United States that have an influence on these elections. And this has caused, as far as we are concerned, us to witness continuous erosion in the United States' position of principles in terms of the solution to the problem of this area. And with the new elections, there is more give to one side. And at the same time, we have to deal with new friends, in most cases unaware of what the problem really is or its background, dealing with many problems the world over, not being able to give it the time required or the attention. And, (?in terms of) watching it from this area, I have had the privilige of serving my country and serving this area for over 30 years. I have seen it happen time and again.

[Correspondent] I know that you have been quoted as saying that you like Ronald Reagan.

[Husayn] Yes, indeed. I have a great respect for him, a great affinity. I believe that he is a man of principle and of courage. And he is indeed a good friend. And if I have been critical, it is not and has not been my intention to direct this criticism toward the President of the United States, Ronald Reagan in particular. But I have been compelled to make my views clear because of what I have seen over the many years that have passed, certainly since 1967, and the continuous erosion of the U.S. position and therefore its loss of credibility in the area and effectiveness in helping us move toward the establishment of peace.

[Correspondent] We know that at one time you gave an interview to the *NEW YORK TIMES*, too, and you were very critical how the administration and in its dealings with the Middle East and the way that it was working with Israel in particular. And afterwards it was reported that the Reagan administration was shocked at some of your words, saying that they had lost the credibility and that they were not an honest broker for the Middle East. And then I also read that you were very upset because what you were hoping to do, through that interview, was to shock the United States into waking up, into taking better stock of the conditions in the Middle East. Exactly what happened shortly after that when Congress turned down the sales that you were interested in? It made a division in feeling between the United States and Jordan? Have you been able to pull that gap back together again?

[Husayn] In the first place, my intention was to try to create a debate in the United States itself over the area and policies towards this area by stating the fact that the situation was deteriorating and that the United States' position has been compromised in the area through American policies, not necessarily the President or the administration, but a combination of factors over many years. And it came at a time really when we were under pressure — and we still are — as if we were responsible for lack of progress towards peace. No one has done more for that, or would be willing to do more than ourselves if there was a way out. But to portray us as the obstacle on the path of peace is really not only unfair, but totally untrue. And obviously what destroyed the Regan initiative was Israel and her attitudes and her actions on the gound.

And there were actually two issues that came up at the time when I made that statement. One was an attempt by me to try to seek support to permit people in the occupied territories their freedom of expression. The PLO is a Palestinian liberation organization. Its sole reason for existence is to liberate the territories occupied. But if this is the case, then it is there it reflect the feelings of the people in these occupied territories. We had delegations come to us, to myself and to the head of the PLO, imploring us to do all we could for the establishment of peace and to save them as rapidly as possible. There was an attempt to try to get them to move, certainly their representatives within the Palestinian National Council, to be permitted to leave the occupied territories to attend the meeting, maybe to reshape the thinking and direction of the PLO, to be freer and more representative of their feelings. Well, I got a negative on that.

That was one of the issues and certainly the other one was the question of settlements where again we had drafted a resolution that we though could be presented before the Security Council by any of the member states, based this time on American positions — nothing else — at the United Nations and over the year, including presidential statements. Well, we got a negative to begin with when I was in Washington, but a promise that it would be studied and then again the answer was no, it might be changed. And even if they found a way to agree with us on what they had said — not this administration but successive administrations since this problem has started — maybe there would be changes in the Security Council which would cause the United States to take a veto, or to use a veto. So, no matter where we turned to try to get some measure of support to bring about progress or hold deterioration, we found these obstacles, and I had to speak at that time.

The problem of Stinger was the least of our worries. I never had the impression that it was not going to pass through in any event, and it was the least of our requirements to the long list, including their fighter aircraft and mobile defense equipment and missiles such as the advanced Hawk and so on. And we were asked time and again to wait. And then we were promised Stinger, which was the smallest item. And then when that wasn't going to go through in any event, and I had these strong feelings, I decided: Let me preempt the failure in Congress lest it be described as a reaction to our not being able to get Stinger and speak my mind, and I did. That was exactly the story of the total.

[Correspondent] Were you upset when you felt that the administration and perhaps the United States Congress misunderstood what you were trying to do?

[Husayn] Well, if it did or they did, I am sorry that this should have been the case, but I still believe, in all honesty, that I spoke the truth and what was in my mind, not as a reaction to any particular incident, but at the culmination of far too many.

[Correspondent] Have you been able to bridge the gap?

[Husayn] We have not been in contact over a period of time, and, well, obviously we have our relations. But as far as we are concerned, in terms of the military dimension, we are looking to diversify our sources of weaponry to secure our legitimate defense needs, and it is the decision of all here in Jordan to try to move away from the United States in that respect if possible so that this does not remain to be a problem between us. But, on the other hand, we realize how important the United States is in terms of this tragedy which involves all of us and the United States' interests in this area as well. And we will continue to do our very best to present our case adequately and strongly in Washington and elsewhere, and hope that we will get the understanding that this problem requires in the interest of the United States and all who live in this area.

[Correspondent] And let us continue about the Soviet Union for a moment. In looking at the *JORDAN TIMES*, there is an editorial and it says: The Soviet Union is siding with right and justice while the U.S. is supporting the aggressor and continuously providing him with tools of destruction. The Soviets are succeeding while the Americans are failing because Moscow's policies are stable and based on justice.

[Husayn] That probably is the view of the person who wrote that editorial.

[Correspondent] Is it one that you agree with?

[Husayn] I believe that the Soviet Union at least has continued to speak of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, and basically the need to implement these resolutions, and territory for peace. So, it has been constant in that regard.

[Correspondent] As far as the Israelis are concerned, with the advent of Peres and Labor, do you feel that this will make a great difference for peace in the Middle East?

[Husayn] I really do not know. It is too early to give an assessment. We were very interested in watching these elections, and in point of fact when Likud came to power in the wake of the Israeli election, many tried to describe the causes and reasons as domestic and economic. And my feeling was that at that point in time there was shift in some segment of the Israeli public towards more extremism and attachment to land which was not theirs. These recent elections, as [I was] asked my views, and I said that we will see if there is any change. I do not think that the elections produced the results that many would have hoped for in this world including myself. We have rabbis, we have a number of generals in the Israeli Knesset now, which is a reflection of again a trend toward more extremist policies and policies that claim that the lands occupied in 1967 are Israeli. And now we have the possibility that Peres will be the next prime minister. Labor was in power before, the period before '67, and throughout the many years before Likud, and unfortunately, we were not able to implement 242. Will we be able to make a contribution now or not with the realities within Israel, within the Knesset, I really do not know. We will have to wait and see.

[Correspondent] I would imagine, because you have been working for peace in the Middle East for so many years, I would have imagined or imagine that you have become a very patient man.

[Husayn] Patient, maybe; I have always been patient, I believe, but I suffer from a feeling of disappointment that with the passage of years — I am sure that many share this feeling as well in this area — we have not yet been able to make progress, to leave something for generations to come: a life of peace, human dignity, security, the kind of life that we have not been able to live throughout the many years that have passed. And yet we will have to keep trying to achieve that objective.

[Correspondent] You speak of the Middle East in general; you speak of Jordan in particular. But what of you? What of King Husayn, the man, who has had to go through all of these years? How are you able to continue on when the outlook is not very bright?

[Husayn] Faith in the people of Jordan, who themselves have manifested tremendous qualities of courage in the face of the unknown, in the face of uncertainty, in the face of real threats; who have built time and again; who have tried to influence others in the area by example; and who will continue to do so; and a very, very strong conviction in the justice of our cause, and our mission to continue to try our very best to defend what is right, to seek justice, and to seek an honorable, just, and durable peace in this area.

[Correspondent] In speaking with different Israelis and in looking at the borders, in looking at the West Bank, in looking at what is happening in southern Lebanon, it has been repeatedly said that it is being done for security reasons, that Israel is a very, very small nation in the midst of many Arab states. And how can they be secure under these circumstances without protecting their borders?

[Husayn] I believe that, with all due respect, this is nonsense. I believe that security is a state of peace, is a frame of mind. If you think of Israel as it is right now, well, we are a very small state and we are far more threatened than the Israelis by Israel, supported by the United States, continously, and in a position to threaten militarily the entire Arab world. You can fly, as I have said time and again, over many of the capitals in the area — certainly over Beirut — in a commercial aircraft, and at night you can see not only Beirut but you can see Damascus and Amman and Jerusalem and Tel Aviv and Haifa and even further afield. There is no security in being in other people's territory. There is no security in this area where distances are minimal. All are threatened unless there is a just and durable peace and the feeling of people that this is the case and therefore it is in their interest to defend peace and to live and enjoy it to the fullest possible extent. This is my answer to this question, really.

[Correspondent] It would appear — and certainly knowing that the leaders of the Arab world have spoken of this problem with each other, continue trying to find a solution — it would appear now in speaking to President Mubarak of Egypt, in speaking with President al-Jumayyil of Lebanon, in speaking with Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO, in speaking with you, King Husayn, that there seems to be some sort of unity in moving toward help from the Soviet Union. What causes that?

[Husayn] What causes that is the need to secure support in this world in the face of the threat to our people and their future in this entire area. We have no problem anywhere. I spoke time and again of the five permanent members of the Security Council. If we have a problem it is (?simply) with Washington and in the United States particularly. I believe inevitably the American people will understand this area and will understand its problems. But will that understanding come in time before disaster overtakes all of us? I have always been against polarization in this area. I believe Israel has been for polarization in this area. And [sentence incomplete].

[Correspondent, interrupting] [words indistinct] Your Majesty, with many of the Arab nations having closer ties with the Soviet Union that perhaps they are only heading toward more polarization between the United States and the Soviet Union.

[Husayn] This is something that I deeply regret but it is unfortunately born of developments and events in this area. We would like to have the best relations with all in this world, but we value our freedom, we value our rights to live and to have these relations with all in this world without jeopardy or threat to our identity as a people, to all that our forefathers had achieved. Unfortunately, the threat is there and we will do our very utmost to prevent such an eventuality. But obviously, if we have to, we will have to seek help and support from all in this world to build our own capabilities; not to survive — survival in itself is not an objective — but to ensure that the rights of future generations are preserved as well.

[Correspondent] King Husayn, in reading about you, you were 16 years old the first time there was an assassination attempt on your life, and a medal that your grandfather had pinned on you that day saved your life from the bullet. There have been 11 documented assassination attempts against your life. One would think that would make a man almost frightened. I guess it does two things. One of two things that either makes them very frightened or very determined to go forward. And it seems in your case that it has made you determined to go forward. How were you able to go forward when those kinds of things have happened to you in your past and could easily happen to you in the future?

[Husayn] I have never thought of [word indistinct] fatalist. I have seen so much in my life that causes me to be thus, and I believe that when my time comes it will come. To live my life thinking about danger would make it almost impossible for me to fulfill my responsibilities and my duty. I have always tried to be able to live with myself to the best of my ability. And I believe in God and I believe that when it is my time to go, I will. Life is too short to worry about what may happen next. We have to keep trying to the best of our ability, and that is the way we have lived.

[Correspondent] Do you also feel that your fatalistic attitude about life is responsible for some of the other actions that you have taken such as what was reported in 1967 during the war, that there you were out in front of the men, you were going ahead of them in a Jeep. That is something that is usually not done and which seems to take a great amount of courage?

[Husayn] Well, there were many incidents in '67 and before and after where one might have been exposed to danger. But oddly enough, in a crisis I never think of the moment. I think beyond that. Maybe I think in that respect of what might have happened later. But in the face of danger, I have always been able to look ahead and to move. On one occasion in 1967 we were overtaking an ammunition convoy that had come under air attack and bombs were exploding regularly and I had to go forward to see what was happening. I remember my driver saying we can't move, and I said well our lives are not better than those who had lost them in these trucks. Move. And we moved and nothing happened until we passed the danger point. Sixty-seven was really a point in time when all one's dreams and hopes were shattered. We did not go to war thinking that we would win. We went to war knowing that we would lose. We went to war because we were members of the Arab League. We had to honor an agreement to support each other if war were waged upon us. When Egypt was struck by Israel, our forces under the command of Egypt, the unified Arab command, were activated. But, that war was a year and a half before the time when Arab military experts at the highest levels and even the Arab summits had decided the Arabs would reach a degree of parity with Israel, let alone superiority. In any event our worst fears materialized and at the same time we saw the destruction of our country and our Armed Forces and the loss of the West Bank and the loss of the work of many, many years of trying to get this country together and get it to move ahead. It was one of the most difficult phases of my life and it has left an impact which continues with me to this day and will forever, I suppose.

[Correspondent] When you think about the problems that you have had during your reign and still trying to work toward peace all the time, thinking back to when you were 17 years old, when you became the monarch of Jordan, it was probably something that you expected to happen in your life but certainly not at that age, certainly not that young. And having lived through all of the trials that you have lived through, has there ever been a moment when you had wished that that was not your duty?

[Husayn] I do not think that I have had the luxury to think that way. Of course, it was my dearest wish that I would have been able to live a normal life. My grandfather, the founder of the Kingdom, Arab patriot, a man who fought in the Arab revolt and was one of its leaders, normally, might have lived for many more years, my father after him; and if it ever came to me it was very far from my thoughts that I would be involved in what has been the life of Jordan at that early age. I had lived as a normal Jordanian through difficult years, through the first years of this country [words indistinct], but it happened and when it did I had to live up to the expectations of the people who were to me the elder members of my family or the younger ones who adopted me as their son and who were my brothers and friends. And at the same time, as a Hashemite, I had to do my utmost as my family has always done. That has been a part of the Arab struggle throughout its history. And one had to keep trying to live with oneself and to live up to the expectations of others and their hopes. And my dearest wish has been and will always be to contribute something for a better future for these people.

[Correspondent] You mentioned earlier that it has been, [as heard] that you have faith in God, and that therefore, you do what you have to do and you go onwards because you have that faith in God. Do you feel that God has put you in this position for a purpose and therefore will protect you and keep you there?

[Husayn] I don't go that far, really. I know I am in this position and as long as I am in this position I will do my utmost to live up to the responsibilities that the position implies. And incidentally, one of my dearest wishes throughout the many years that have passed has been to see Jordan evolve, to see its people assume responsibility, to see them partake in shaping their future. And throughout life I have not made decisions by myself, sometimes maybe one has had to, but I have only done so after listening to myself, in response to the many questions regarding any decision, and before that to listening to everybody. I am very slow in making a decision and once I make it, I make it.

[Correspondent] Your Majesty, we only have moments left. I guess that what I want to hear from you is if you feel there is hope.

[Husayn] There is always hope. And there is hope that people the world over will realize what is happening in this area as well, and will help all of us in this area move toward the establishment of a just and durable peace. There is hope because it is a part of life and we must keep it alive. And it is alive within us.

[Correspondent] Your Majesty, thank you so much for being with us this evening.

[Husayn] It is really my pleasure.

[Correspondent] [Word indistinct] this time and to tell us your thoughts and what is really necessary for peace in the area.

[Husayn] Thank you so much.

Abu 'Awdah Conveys Message to Mubarak 19 Aug

JN191235 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Cairo — 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, today conveyed a message from His Majesty King Husayn to His Excellency Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak dealing with developments in the Arab region. The message falls within the context of consultation and coordination between the two fraternal countries in order to serve the supreme Arab interest. 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah left Amman this morning.

Austrian Defense Minister Departs Amman 19 Aug

JN191238 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] The Austrian defense minister and the accompanying delegation left Amman this morning following an official visit to Jordan which lasted several days. During the visit, he met with a number of ranking officials and visited several military and historic sites in Jordan. They were seen by General ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces; the chief of staff; a number of senior officers; and the Austrian ambassador in Amman.

Private Defense, Security Agency Established

GF171707 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 16 Aug 84 p 1

['Abdallah Al-'Utum dispatch from Jordan]

[Text] For the first time in Jordan, a special defense and security agency has been set up to provide protection and security for VIP's during their appearances, and to protect installations and private industrial or commercial areas and public utilities. The agency is headed by retired engineer 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Majali, former Jordanian ambassador to Washington and former Jordanian chief of staff.

At a press conference in Amman yesterday evening, attended by *AL-QABAS*, engineer Al-Majali said that this institution is unique to the region. It has emerged as a result of current worlddevelopments and of political, economic, and social complications accompanying these developments, particularly in the Middle East region.

He added that these circumstances necessitate protection against terrorism and crime whether organized or not; therefore there was a need to set up an organization using modern scientific methods.

Engineer al-Majali said: Thus there emerged the idea of setting up the Middle East Agency for Defense and Security in cooperation with international organizations specializing in security. This institution stems from the Jordanian Middle East Strategic Studies Institute and the British International Defense and Security Company, which operates in the Middle East and has its headquarters in Cyprus. The latter stemmed from the British Defense Systems Company, Ltd and the British Security Company. All these companies provide full security services using experienced and competent teams and advanced technology systems. The agency is ready to import these systems, install, operate, and maintain them, and train their operators at training centers set up in Amman.

It is worth noting that the companies which the Middle East Defense and Security Agency deals with have more than one century of experience in this field. Engineer al-Majali added: We have started in Jordan and we look forward to moving to the other Arab countries, particularly the Arab Gulf states.

It is worth mentioning that a number of retired Jordanian generals and some officers from the special forces, the special royal guard, public security, and civil defense are members of this agency, totaling about 126 persons. This agency is expected to take charge of protecting Queen 'Alya' International Airport and some strategic residential areas, as well as commercial bank buildings and major hotels in the Jordanian capital.

Briefs

Kuwaiti Loan — Amman, 19 Aug (PETRA) — The Ministry of Finance and the National Bank of Kuwait signed an agreement for a loan. In accordance with the agreement, the National Bank of Kuwait will provide Jordan with a $50 million loan as short-term credit. [Text] [Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 0750 GMT 19 Aug 84 JN]

Summit With Syria Expected This Week

NC200824 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Highly-placed sources in Damascus expect that a Lebanese-Syrian summit will take place at the end of this week. Presidents Amin al-Jumayyil and Hafiz al-Asad will head the Lebanese and Syrian sides.

To Meet in Damascus 23 Aug

JN201035 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1000 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Reliable sources said in Damascus today that a summit conference between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil will be held in the Syrian capital next Thursday.

Al-Jumayyil, Syrian Hold Talks

NC201027 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil held talks with Syrian presidential envoy Muhammad al-Khuli at the presidential summer residence in Bikfayya this morning. Informed sources said the talks dealt with current developments in Lebanon in the political and security spheres, as well as with the Lebanese-Syrian summit expected to take place before the end of this week.

Prime Minister Rashid Karami arrived in Bikfayya at 1255 to participate in the talks.

VOL Reports Al-Jumayyil CNN Interview

NC190800 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Dispatches by Voice of Lebanon correspondents 'Aziz Ra'd in New York and Emil Harb in Washington — recorded]

[Text] [Harb] The CNN television network last night continued its visits — which began at the beginning of the week — with the Middle East leaders and conducted an interview with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil in Bikfayya. During the 1-hour interview, President al-Jumayyil reviewed in depth what is taking place in the Lebanese arena, defining the Lebanese position and correcting much erroneous information formed by the U.S. information media and people about Lebanon.

The president began his interview by discussing the foreign presence in Lebanon, emphasizing that the departure of foreigners is the dream of every Lebanese, all of whom are working to bring it about. He said that there is a great hope of achieving this objective and we are close to a solution. We have many reasons to be optimistic.

The president said to those who are dreaming of annexing Lebanon: The Lebanese people have demonstrated their commitment to rescuing their homeland and to building a sovereign and independent Lebanon. For this reason, Lebanon shall remain Lebanon. We have offered 100,000 martyrs for the sake of Lebanon's survival. We shall preserve Lebanon's identity whatever dreams are being entertained by others. The president went on to say: I am saying this because I am aware of my people's pride in their Lebanese nationality.

On Lebanon's foreign relations, the president said: We have many friends, beginning with President Reagan, Saudi Arabia, and ending with [Syrian] President al-Asad. From the beginning, I have been convinced of the usefulness of having good relations with the Syrians. We [and the Syrians] have common borders as well as joint interests and history. For this reason, we have to have good relations. This does not mean that we submit to the domination of others.

The president went on to say: The internal divisions are fabricated and we shall succeed in rebuilding our country. We have thus far achieved much by our having formed a government embracing all parties. We are seeking to make Lebanon an example of coexistence.

On the 1943 formula, the president said: Every person in Lebanon has his rights and the formula does not stipulate that responsibilities should be assigned along sectarian lines. Every person acts on the basis of his duty. We do not claim that this formula is the best in the world, but it is the best formula we have found for Lebanon. Everybody has insisted that the president should be Christian. This does not mean that this is a monopoly for the Christians. The Muslims themselves believed that it is necessary for their interests and the interests of the Arabs that the Lebanese president be a Christian. There are 22 Arab countries, of which 21 countries have Muslim presidents. In 1973, the Arabs delegated Lebanon's Christian President Sulayman Franjiyah to represent them at the United Nations to defend the Palestinian cause there. The Arabs and Muslims consider that having a Christian Lebanese president is beneficial to their cause and aims. Minister Nabih Birri said in Lausanne: We believe that through a Christian president we will be able to go to the south and to have the Israelis withdraw from the south. The conflict in Lebanon is not between Christians and Muslims, for how can you interpret the conflict among Muslims in West Beirut and in Tripoli?

Asked about the fears that Lebanon will follow Khomeyni's and Iran's line, President al-Jumayyil said: In Lebanon, there are limits to our policy and nobody follows revolutionary lines, be they Khomeyniite or Christian. If a minority believes that it can attain its objectives through a Khomeyniite course, it will achieve no results and it is mistaken.

Told that walls in West Beirut are covered with Khomeyni's pictures, the president responded by saying: We cannot build countries with pictures. Beirut is not a Khomeyniite city and the people do not belong to him. There are supporters but they are few and it is easy to urge anyone to paste whatever pictures you wish. If a study of West Beirut is conducted one will be surprised by the number of people who oppose such displays. There is a consensus in West Beirut against extremism and everybody there is working to build a new basis for a genuine peace.

The following is a recording of [part of] what President al-Jumayyil said:

[Begin Al-Jumayyil recording in English] We know that the Lebanese people have shown a determination to serve their country and to build its sovereignty and independence and a united Lebanon. For that, I am sure that Lebanon remains Lebanon. We offered about 100,000 martyrs for this united Lebanon and we will maintain its independence, united and sovereign (?in spite) of what the others would like to do or think. [end recording]

For the rest of what the president has said, we go to 'Aziz Ra'd in Washington.

['Aziz Ra'd] President Al-Jumayyil stressed he is exerting his utmost effort to carry out his national responsibilities and save Lebanon because Lebanon, as he said, deserves to be saved. He also expressed optimism about the possibility of achieving progress [towards a solution] in less than 1 year.

The president was asked about Lebanon's relations with the Soviet Union, particularly as a number of Lebanese ministers had visited Moscow, and whether the Soviets are trying to gain influence in Lebanon. He answered that he had personally visited the Soviet Union in 1974 and also visited China. Lebanon, as a member of the Nonaligned Movement countries, wants to have good relations with the Soviets and other countries. He said: But this does not mean that Lebanon will become communist, or a member of the Warsaw Pact or of any other forms of Soviet alliances.

He was also asked: What do you want from the United States? He answered: We now have cordial and firm relations with President Reagan and the United States. We are proud of this and appreciate all the efforts they exerted for the sake of Lebanon. We tried to implement the 17 May accord to bring about the withdrawal of foreign forces. We might have failed in that experiment but this does not mean that the United States does not have a permanent role in Lebanon. We are working together to build a better future for Lebanon and we are in constant touch with the U.S. people because we share with them a belief in the principles of freedom, democracy, and the propagation for world peace.

The president was asked: Have you felt that the United States let you down after withdrawing the Marines from Lebanon? He replied in the negative and said: No, never. Our relationship is more than one of a military presence in Lebanon. We are not looking for a military presence. That presence took place by coincidence. What we want is another sort of relationship and the fulfillment of joint objectives. Lebanon can provide the world with a unique experiment of coexistence among its various communities. This is not the case in any other part of the world. How can Reagan's peace intiative or any other initiative be implemented through the United States or any international conference on the Middle East without studying the Lebanese experiment? This experiment is the first step towards reaching real peace in the Middle East. We are working together to achieve this task which could be the Lebanese people's contribution to peace.

President al-Jumayyil said that all political leaders in Lebanon are working to reach a solution. They are looking forward to the establishment of peace and understanding for the sake of a new future for Lebanon. He said: We are capable of attaining this because the Lebanese communities have only one choice: The choice of coexistence and achieving national detente so as to build an independent and free Lebanon.

President al-Jumayyil strongly emphasized to U.S. public opinion that the Lebanese crisis is not the result of the civil war as the Western media is depicting but is the victim of foreign interference in Lebanon's internal affairs and the result of regional and international conflicts. The contradictions [tanaqudat] within Lebanon do not justify the death of 100,000 Lebanese. He stressed that the Lebanese citizen is a simple, upright, and peace-loving person.

Talks Held on Implementation of Security Plan

NC171400 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Government leaders today held consultations on the details of the security plan for the mountain, which is intended to go into effect within the next 2 days. Informed official sources have expressed their optimism regarding the imminent resolution of the crisis facing the implementation of the security plan. The sources said that the plan on which agreement was reached involves the following: First, the opening of the Beirut-Damascus road from Al-Kahhalah to Sawfar. Second, the opening of the coastal road between Kafr Shima and Sidon. Third, the opening of the 'Alayh-Suq al-Gharb-'Aytat road downward as far as Al-Ma'rufiyah, Kafr Shima, and Ash-Shuwayfat. Fourth, other stages will follow, the most important being the opening of the coastal road as far as the Al-Awwali River in the south.

The same sources revealed that intensive contacts are taking place behind the scenes between Beirut and Damascus to formulate a comprehensive plan aimed at opening all the highways and achieving the required security balance. The sources revealed that there are reservations which still hold up the start of implementing the comprehensive security plan for all the areas. It is expected that an attempt will be made to solve the security problems during a meeting which the Military Council will hold at the Defense Ministry this afternoon. The Military Council meeting precedes a meeting which will take place tomorrow between President Al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Karami during which the final touches will be put on the security plan.

Karami Comments on Mountain Security Plan, South

NC181234 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Rashid Karami met for 90 minutes and reviewed the results of contacts and consultations made during the week. This meeting took place at a time when there is talk about some progress in approving the mountain security plan and guaranteeing the opening of the international highway up to Sawfar.

Following the meeting, Prime Minister Karami said: The march has forged its way and will continue toward its objectives, which are unifying the country, liberating it, and putting it on a course of comprehensive reform. The mountain security plan will be implemented in stages with the approval of the concerned parties. As for the Israeli measures in the south, he said that discussions continue on the possibility of lodging a complaint with the [UN] Security Council.

Answering journalists' questions, Karami said:

[Begin recording] [Karami] There is no doubt that these past few days and the clamor raised concerning the mountain security plan and other issues were an opportunity for good-intentioned writers to discuss matters in a manner that gave the impression that there are insolvable differences or that the crisis indicates there are obstacles in the salvation process. As a result, some of the brother citizens have become perplexed. We found ourselves facing people of goodwill and illwill. Their eyes looked at us with optimism or doubt. The following should be decisively clarified. This march has forged its way and will continue toward its objectives of unifying and liberating the country, and putting it on a course of comprehensive reform. Hence, we are confident that the mountain [security] plan, as drawn up, will be implemented in stages with the approval of the concerned parties, particularly as the national unity government would like to stress that Lebanon's salvation is its first priority.

We are aware of Israel's moves, its increased bad practices, and its pressures on the south, Rashayya, and western Al-Biqa'. The entire world, particularly the United States, is aware of these measures but does not take any action or exert any pressure to put an end to these inhuman moves: I do not say the fascist and Nazi ones. This is conspicuous and it requires that we — as this has become too much — should study the possibility of lodging a complaint with the Security Council in order to put matters on their correct course.

[First unidentified reporter] Mr Prime Minister, will this issue be discussed at the Cabinet session expected to be held next Wednesday, or before then?

[Karami] Such a step undoubtedly needs a Cabinet decision. As I said, the Cabinet will meet on Wednesday, God willing.

[Second unidentified reporter] Concerning the mountain security plan, can you tell us the date for implementing this plan and whether it will be done in stages?

[Karami] This plan, of course, is being studied by the concerned parties. It will be discussed at the next Cabinet session. Only then can this question be answered practically.

[Second unidentified reporter] How do you, finally, explain the security violation that took place last night [words indistinct] and was aimed at the residential area?

[Karami] We are, in fact, sorry because we want to end for good such acts and strikes against the innocent and civilians. As for why the plan has not been implemented in the mountain, I believe that [this is the result] of limited moves. I will not say more than that.

[Second unidentified reporter] Mr Prime Minister, will the Cabinet discuss the political file at its session next Wednesday?

[Karami] All these files undoubtedly will be discussed and stands will be adopted on them as required by higher Lebanese interests.

[Unidentified reporter] [passage indistinct]

[Karami] God willing, as you and all of us wish, thank you. [end recording]

Army Prepared To Implement Mountain Plan

NC180621 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Excerpt] A ministerial source said that at its upcoming session, which is expected to be held on Wednesday, the Cabinet will discuss important issues: the south, the political issue, and the mountain plan.

These subjects will also be the topics of the weekly meeting to be held today between President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister Rashid Karami. The meeting will be an occasion to assess the country's general situation in all security and military aspects, in light of the agreement that has been reached in principle on the first phase of the mountain plan between the Army Command and the parties concerned. It is most likely that the Cabinet will approve this first phase during its meeting on Wednesday.

A series of military meetings was held at the National Defense Ministry. Army Commander General Michel 'Awn, Chief of the General Staff Major General Nadim al-Hakim, and senior officers participated in these meetings in order to put the final touches on the plan's first phase. Another meeting was held and was attended by the commanders of the 10th and 11th Brigades, Colonels Nasib 'Id and Amin al-Qadi. It was decided during the meeting to apply the same experiment used in the Beirut's central sector to the contact lines in the mountain.

Major General Hakim met with former Minister Marwan Hamadah yesterday evening and informed him that the Army Command approved the plan and is prepared to start implementing it.

These meetings resulted in an agreement on a military committee, which to visit the mountain areas where the security plan is to be implemented. They will survey these areas, which continue to experience some tension. Violent clashes took place on the Suq al-Gharb front lines at midnight last night, but soon stopped after the necessary contacts were made.

Birri Describes South Liberation as Key to Solution

NC181815 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Nabih Birri, minister of state for the south and reconstruction affairs, has affirmed that the political solution begins from the south, and that liberating the south is the key to the solution. He said there are promises by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to withdraw Syrian forces from Lebanon after the occupation forces are withdrawn from the south. Minister Birri called for eliminating political sectarianism and granting equal rights to all Lebanese. This came during an interview which Minister Birri gave today in his office in the UNESCO building to a group of French journalists comprising correspondents from Radio Europe, *L'HUMANITE* newspaper, and AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

Minister Birri said: We are now going through a tunnel at the end of which we may reach peace. But now we are in a very sensitive position, especially since there is a relationship between the Middle East crisis and the solution in Lebanon. What is happening in the south is the opposite of what is happening in Beirut. While crossing points are being opened between the two sectors of the capital, we find that the Israelis intend to close the only access road that links Beirut and the south. The Israelis have turned the south into another West Bank, and it is no longer possible for anyone to move across the barriers except on foot — exactly as is the situation at King Husayn's bridge in the West Bank.

He added: I think that the political solution and the security solution are congruent. The government was formed 110 days ago, and so far nothing significant has been done on the political level apart from the principles of the government policy statement. What must be done is to review or cancel the 161 legislative decrees [issued during the previous government's term].

Minister Birri affirmed that some achievements have been made on the security level, particularly with regard to the Lebanese Army. An important step has been made in this sphere, but it is insufficient. Other steps must be taken, particularly toward the south — that is, on the Sidon-Beirut road. He said: I am not pessimistic, but neither am I very optimistic.

Asked whether a large number of Lebanese think that federalism constitutes a solution, Minister Birri said: What kind of federalism? Is it geographic or demographic? I have heard much about this subject. Minister Sham'un submitted a plan for federation in Lausanne. What I want to know is how can such a plan be implemented in practice. We know that there are federal states and confederations or various cantons as is the situation in Switzerland. But such state systems neither suit Lebanon geographically nor demographically. I do not think that this will be suitable in Lebanon.

Minister Birri added: Let us take my situation, for example. In my capacity as a Shi'ite, I would like to know my position on the Lebanese map in case of a confederation. There are Shi'ites in the south, in the Jubayl district, in the Al-Biqa', in Beirut, and in Beirut's southern suburb. To which area should I move? Should the Shi'ites be moved from the south, or Jubayl, or the southern suburb to the Al-Biqa'? This is unreasonable. I think that the talk about federalism is just a balloon, and the purpose of such a balloon is to divert our attention from demanding our rights as Lebanese. We are constantly being threatened by this religious aspect of the crisis. What I said about the Shi'ites also applies to the Sunnites and Maronites. Where should these communities be assembled? Lebanon is a small country. It is a mixture. We are not against this mixture of religions, but against the sectarian system.

In reply to a question about his view of a political solution, Minister Birri said: The political solution is as follows: We are now in a tunnel. It is necessary to begin by liberating the south. The liberation of the south is the key to the solution of the crisis. We have promises by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad to withdraw Syrian forces from Lebanon after the Israeli withdrawal. Then there will be no problems facing Lebanon's unity.

Birri on Changes in Shi'ite Community, Security Plan

NC191713 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri said today that the leadership in the Shi'ite community has changed. He affirmed that he is opposed to the old generation politicians. He said the election of a Chamber of Deputies' speaker other than Kamil al-As'ad is up to the deputies themselves. He pointed out that his relations with Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din are close. He also pointed out that no direct relations exist with Iran, although he wishes to establish such relations with it and with the United States.

In a press interview to be published tomorrow, Birri affirmed that he is still true to his word that he will hold a meeting with the Lebanese Forces if the road extending from Al-Madfun bridge to the Al-Awwali River is opened.

Birri said: The fact that the Cabinet reached a common policy about the south and its liberation prompts me to say that the countdown for the Lebanese crisis has begun. He added: We have no differences in views with the president of the Republic about the unity and liberation of Lebanon. But there are many differences about domestic issues, and we shall try to iron them out or reduce them.

He said that the security plan has succeeded to a certain extent, pointing out that security must precede political agreement. He added that the southerners refuse to allow any Palestinian gunman to pass through their territory. Israel must withdraw in implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions.

Al-Huss Advocates Opening Coastal Road

NC191733 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Minister Salim al-Huss has said that Lebanon possesses a huge information and diplomatic capability, which it has not mobilized, to defend its right in the areas which Israel occupies and which it has been trying by all means to isolate and take away from Lebanon.

In a press interview, Minister Salim said that any security plan for the south will not have the necessary credibility unless it is accompanied by two things: First, a united Lebanese will to confront the Israeli challenge, and second, the arrival of the Lebanese authority at the gate to the south. From this premise we regard the opening of the coastal road up to the Al-Awwali River as a national demand which must not be linked to any consideration. This is because it is the first step in any possible initiative for the liberation of the south.

'Ministerial Source' Views Cabinet Discussions

NC171732 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] A prominent ministerial source has not ruled out the possibility that the Cabinet will hold an extraordinary session on Monday, although he regards this possibility as remote. He said everything depends on agreement on the mountain and the coastal road security plan, including the weekly Cabinet session on Wednesday. The ministerial source pointed out that during its next session, the Cabinet will discuss two important subjects: the south and the political situation, as well as the mountain plan.

With regard to the south issue, the ministerial source affirmed that it is necessary to deploy the Army up to the Al-Awwali River, but he expects Israel to obstruct such a move for many reasons, some of which are that the presence of the Army near the Al-Awwali River will hamper the movement of Israeli patrols into the Al-Kharrub region and will hamper Israel's continued attempts to cause tension and flareups. The source said that the efforts to end the Israeli occupation in the south must be accompanied by completing the visualization for the indigenous security arrangements by the authority so that negotiations can be conducted concerning them through a third party — the United Nations or Washington. It is clear that Israel cannot give Washington any political gain at this stage when the U.S. Administration is passing through a transition period.

The source explained that in the past Lebanon wagered on the United States to ensure the Israeli withdrawal, although one must not wager on one party. However, Washington did not take a firm stand on the Middle East issue nor against Israel.

With regard to the political issue, the source affirmed that it involves three things: Amendment of the Constitution, amendment of the legislative decrees, and political reforms. The source expects that the Cabinet will adopt the method of holding ministerial meetings rather than ordinary Cabinet sessions to discuss the legislative decrees which were issued during the term of the previous government as this subject is the responsibility of the cabinet alone. As for the amendment of the Constitution, the committee of 32 will be entrusted with this task. The committee will act as a consultative council since the Chamber of Deputies is the body authorized under the Constitution to amend the Constitution. The source stressed the need for the committee to comprise politicians rather than technocrats so that it can represent all the parties and the influential political forces in the country.

He said that after its formation the committee would formulate its visualization of Lebanon's future constitution, apart from the election laws, the nationality law, and the general administration law about which the Chamber of Deputies refused to give extraordinary powers to the government.

Reportage on Fighting in the Mountain

Sniper Fire at Ash-Shuwayfat

NC181259 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Sniper fire was directed at Ash-Shuwayfat from Kafr Shima this afternoon. Sniper fire was also directed at the same area at 1145 today. The Security Arrangements Committee dealt with the matter and calm was restored.

Army Positions Under Fire

NC181402 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1345 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Lebanese Army positions in Suq al-Gharb are coming under sniper fire from the positions of Junblatt gunmen in 'Aytat. The same Army positions came under automatic weapons' fire from 'Aytat this afternoon. A single 82-mm mortar shell was also directed at these positions.

Lebanese Forces on Shelling

NC181708 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] The Lebanese Forces today denounced last night's criminal shelling of residential areas in Al-Fayyadiyah, Al-Hazimiyah, Sibnay, Al-Hadath, Sinn al-Fil, and Burj Hammud. The Lebanese Forces accuse Minister Walid Junblatt of using guns to impose his conditions on the state, of which he is a member in appearance. The statement by the Lebanese Forces' official spokesman said that all this is aimed at reopening the Beirut-Sawfar-Damascus international road in accordance with a Syrian desire and in ignorance of the depth of the mountain. The security plan is supposed to ensure the return of all evacuees to their villages, a matter which Junblatt does not seem to be ready to facilitate despite all the promises and information campaigns.

VOL on Situation 18 Aug

NC181952 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Clashes have noticeably eased between gunmen in Kafr Shima and Ash-Shuwayfat while intermittent sniping by antitank weapons and machine guns continued from the Ash-Shuwayfat hills on Kafr Shima which came under mortar, flat-trajectory, and rocket fire between 1930 to 2030. Moreover, the Wadi Shahrur-Bitshay Road came under 23-mm antitank weapon fire from Ash-Shuwayfat and its hills.

PSP Accused of Shelling

NC190533 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0415 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Rashid Karami has emphasized that the march is forging ahead at a steady pace and that security violations in mountain areas are isolated incidents.

Knowledgeable sources said that the situation in the mountain is the captive of pressing regional factors, hence Syria has been placed at the center of things. The same sources expect that Syria will summon Ministers Birri and Junblatt following the denunciation that Damascus has voiced over the obstacles impeding the security plan.

A Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] source has stated that the problems arising from the arming of the 11th Brigade have been resolved, adding that this brigade, along with the 8th Brigade, will ensure the reopening of the international road.

In another development, military and political commands have received reports on the recent shelling operations. The reports contained detailed information and voice recordings of PSP officials in which they instructed their gunmen to shell residential areas.

Army Shells Villages

NC180532 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0430 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] At a time when political contacts were underway on more than one level with the aim of eliminating obstacles in the salvation march, the Army's units in Suq al-Gharb opened machine gun fire at 'Aytat, Baysur, Kayfun, and 'Inab at 2115 last night. Heavy artillery and mortar fire was opened at 2315 at the rate of five shells per minute. The Army's artillery emplacements in 'Ayn ar-Rummanah and Badaru participated in this foolish shelling, which included the Ba'l Shmayh area. A cease-fire was reached at 0015, but the Army did not abide by it. It exacerbated the situation and savagely shelled 'Aytat, Baysur, Kayfun, and 'Inab again. The Army's artillery emplacements in Beirut, specifically in Al-Antuniyah, Al-Mukallis, and Sinn al-Fil, took part in this savage shelling.

A second cease-fire agreement was reached at 0045 but the Army completely ignored it. The violent shelling began gradually abating at 0140. A third cease-fire agreement was reached at 0150. It eventually held.

It is noted that the Army's artillery positions near the presidential palace and a gun emplacement near the soap factory in Sinn al-Fil participated in the shelling at Bhamdun, Ash-Shuwayfat, and the abovementioned townships.

2 Army Soldiers Killed

NC191345 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Two soldiers were killed today when a land mine exploded while Lebanese Army soldiers in Suq al-Gharb were trying to infilitrate toward the positions of the Progressive Socialist Party below Al-Hush Castle between Kayfun and Suq al-Gharb.

VOM on Situation 19 Aug

NC191940 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1900 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Our security correspondent has reported the following:

At 1800, Ash-Shuwayfat came under heavy- and medium-caliber machine gun fire accompanied by artillery shelling. Violent artillery shelling was directed against the area from Kafr Shima at 1930.

At 2000, Ash-Shuwayfat was still the target of artillery and machine gun fire. Kayfun was simultaneously subjected to medium-caliber fire from Suq al-Gharb.

At 2045, fierce artillery shelling extended to Ash-Shuwayfat's residential areas.

At 2115, artillery shelling was directed at Bshamun and 'Ayn 'Nub from Wadi ash-Shahrur and the quarries.

At 2130, the Security Arrangements Committee declared a cease-fire which did not deter the Phalangist militia and the Army from extending their fire to include — in addition to Ash-Shuwayfat, Bshamun, and 'Ayn 'Nub — 'Aytat, Bausur, and Kayfun.

Up to the moment of preparing this news summary, the cease-fire has not been honored and the shelling continues. There have also been reports about tank movements near Suq al-Gharb at 2145.

We have just received a report that since 2200 the security situation has deteriorated seriously on the Suq-al-Gharb-'Aytat battleline. There is artillery shelling coupled with firing by all weapons along this battleline.

Residential Areas Shelled

NC192036 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] The socialists and their allies in Ash-Shuwayfat and nearby hills are continuing their attacks and shelling of residential areas, particularly Al-Hadath, which received a number of shells at 2230. The Junblatt forces not only horrified peaceful citizens in residential areas but also fired three shells on the Republican Palace in B'abda at 2155, causing only material damage.

Following the second cease-fire at 2130, the clashes eased between Ash-Shuwayfat and Kafr Shima. However, sniper fire and rockets continued to be directed at residential areas in Kafr Shima.

Presidential Palace Set Afire

NC200617 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Guarded calm prevails on the contact lines in the mountain, Ash-Shuwayfat, and Kafr Shima following the socialist attacks last night on residential areas in Al-Hadath, Bsaba, the areas around the presidential palace in B'abda, Al-Yarzi, Al-Fayyadiyah, Ar-Rayhaniyah, Al-Hazimiyah, Wadi ash-Shahrur, and (?Bkhishtay).

AP cites a Lebanese security source as saying that fires broke out in the presidential palace after it was hit by several shells. The source added that none of the palace officials or guards was hurt, stressing that President al-Jumayyil was at the presidential summer residence in Bikfayya at the time.

RFL Reports 'Terrorist' Centers Set Up in Al-Biqa'

NC181637 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Reports from Al-Biqa' indicate that the Armed Struggle Front has set up a center for terrorist operations in (Dayr Zammun) under the command of Abu Jamal who has an assistant, a Lebanese Druze named Abu Sakhr.

Security reports indicate that the PFLP has set up a similar center in Ta'lbaya under First Lieutenant 'Ali Muhammad, alias Khalid. He was given the task of carrying out operations aimed at U.S. and French interests.

In Jdita, the As-Sa'iqah set up a center for special operations under the command of first lieutenant Ahmad al-Hallaq. In 'Ayn as-Sawda', the Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] group arranged military maneuvers for 500 of its members, including a large number of their Lebanese associates.

In At-Tayyibah, dissident Palestinians today carried out maneuvers with live ammunition.

Greek Attache Attacked, Wounded in West Beirut

NC191608 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Clashes have been taking place on the Kafr Shima-Ashuwayfat battlelines since 1800 today. Medium-caliber machine guns and RPG's have been used. Similar clashes took place on the Suq al-Gharb-'Aytat battleline at 1430. The clashes lasted for an hour. We have just received a report that the intensity of the clashes has increased. Two members of the disengagement force were wounded today when a land mine exploded in their position in Qal'at al-Husn.

As this was taking place on the mountain, West Beirut also had its share of security setbacks. This afternoon, the military attache at the Greek Embassy was wounded during an assassination attempt. He was rushed to the American Hospital for treatment.

RFL Reports Attack on Syrian Nationalists

NC171647 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] A short while ago, we received a report saying that four Junblattist gunmen in a speeding car opened fire at a position belonging to the Syrian Social Nationalist Party [SSNP] in Verdin [in Beirut] this afternoon. Tension now prevails in the area where gunmen and roadblocks can be seen.

SSNP gunmen had fired at a Junblattist official in (Jarub al-'Aliyah) in Tallat al-Khayyat. An explosion also took place near Al-Safa Mosque in Al-'Amriyah.

VOL Reports Syrian, Israeli Gunboats Clash in North

NC200521 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0430 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Syrian gunboats foiled an attempt by Israeli gunboats to advance toward the Al-Baddawi and Nahr al-Barid camps in the north at 1930 last night. A clash ensued for approximately 1 and 1/2 hours.

Israel Reportedly Digging Tunnel in Al-Litani Area

NC181826 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Security sources have received information from the south to the effect that Israel has been digging a 17-km tunnel from the Lebanese border, near Kafr Killa, to Dayr Mimas. This area is known to be close to the Al-Litani River. The pertinent officials have been given this information, and it is expected that they will hold urgent contacts to investigate the implications of this step, which falls within the framework of the acts of aggression and expansion being carried out by Israel in southern Lebanon.

Reports on Attacks Against Israeli Forces

An-Nabatiyah Attack 17 Aug

NC171455 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] At 1045 today Lebanese national resistence forces attacked an Israeli patrol with hand grenades while the patrol was passing through the main street in An-Nabatiyah, near the Marj 'Uyun bus stop. Israeli occupation forces returned intensive automatic weapons' fire, wounding a number of citizens who happened to be in the area. They were taken to the An-Najdah ash-Sha'biyah Hospital in An-Nabatiyah for treatment.

2 Israelis Reported Killed

NC200723 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Reports from the south this morning say national resistance fighters ambushed a motorized Israeli patrol along the road leading to Al-Hinniyah in Tyre district at 0300. A clash ensued and lasted more than 10 minutes. A military jeep was burned; two soldiers were killed, and others were wounded.

The occupation forces cordoned off the area of the clash and fired flares into the sky. Israeli military helicopters were seen removing the casualties.

Attack Near Tyre 20 Aug

NC200924 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] According to certain security sources, an Israeli occupation forces patrol came under gun and rocket fire near Al-Minyah Village, southeast of Tyre, at dawn today. The sources added that the patrol's cars were hit and that their occupants were killed or wounded. The Israelis then closed the road to the village and arrested 10 persons for questioning.

Foreign Minister on Lebanon Stand, Policy

JN181906 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Damascus — Foreign Minister Faruq ash-Shar' this evening received comrades participating in the 10th political session of the Syrian National Student Union. Hamid Hasan, chairman of the Syrian National Student Union, and Dhib Abu Latif, deputy chairman of the union, attended.

The foreign minister spoke about our great Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's historic and pan-Arab struggle and its role in confronting imperialist and Zionist plots in defense of the Arab nation's honor and dignity. He explained Syria's firm and principled policy in the Arab and international arenas and its important role under President Hafiz al-Asad in leading the Arab liberation movement and in foiling all the expansionist and conspiratorial designs aimed at imposing Zionist-U.S. hegemony on the region.

Ash-Shar' reviewed recent Arab and international political developments, particularly the situation in the Lebanese arena. He stressed that Syria will continue to support the brothers in Lebanon to safeguard the fraternal country's Arabism and unity, achieve national accord, and expel the Israeli invaders from the occupied Lebanese territories. The foreign minister stressed the importance of the Syrian victory in Lebanon regarding abrogation of the 17 May agreement, which is considered a great defeat for U.S. policy in the region. At the end of the meeting, Faruq ash-Shar' answered the questions of the comrades participating in the session. These questions are related to the current situation in the Arab and international arenas.

Al-Qadhdhafi Phones President al-Asad

JN191743 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received a telephone call from Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution in Libya, last night.

Al-Asad Receives PFLP Leader George Habash

JN191744 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received PFLP Secretary General Dr George Habash at 1900 today. Talks dealt with the situation in the region and developments in the Palestinian arena.

Damascus Broadcast Calls for 'Arafat's Removal

JN182009 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Palestine broadcast: From "On the Events" program]

[Text] Never before in the history of the Palestinian struggle has a leadership produced deviations like the ones Yasir 'Arafat's leadership is recording on the political, behavioral, and financial levels. An analysis of 'Arafat's activity within the PLO leadership proves beyond doubt that he has never been concerned with the triumph of the Palestinian people's national cause. He has worked against Palestinian national unity and never allowed any decision on entrenching national unity to reach the implementation stage.

'Arafat has harmed the Palestinian revolution's relations with revolutionary Arab regimes with the aim of dealing a blow to the pan-Arab nature of the battle to liberate Palestine. 'Arafat worked to spread the logic of personalism [al-istizlam] as an alternative to the revolution's revolutionary, ideological affiliation. He bagan numerous patterns of corruption.

'Arafat was not honest in dealing with the Palestinian National Fund. 'Arafat squandered millions of dinars from this fund. He wasted, dissipated, and squandered the money, unmindful of and uncommitted to PLO regulations and the National Fund's bylaws. Now he is letting his men talk about the bankruptcy of the National Fund as though he is not responsible for it. It seems his men are trying to hide the fact that he squandered the money, disregarding the consequencies or perhaps to reach these results. He is doing all this to impose the formula of the imperialist-reactionary settlement, that is, to stab our Palestinian people's struggle in the back and liquidate the Palestinian cause.

In view of this situation, 'Arafat's continuing as head of the PLO Executive Committee can lead only to further disasters for our Palestinian people. It is vital that he be crippled, that he be forced to abandon his post, and that the PLO be allowed to restore its unity and vigor.

AL-BA'TH on Security Setback in Lebanon

JN191300 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 19 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Pillars of the Salvation March Have Aborted the Attempts of Lebanon's Enemies" *AL-BA'TH* says: There has been temporary fumbling in the implementation of the security plan in the mountain. However, the dispute that erupted and delayed the implementation of the plan is not a source of concern for those dealing directly with the crisis. The temporary fumbling may be beneficial in the long term in making the salvation march stand on solid ground that will not be affected by any factors whatsoever. As is the case with our brothers in Lebanon, we in Syria realize that some are still betting on creating a rift in the Lebanese Government, whose members have unanimously agreed to end the crisis in the interest of Lebanon.

AL-BA'TH adds: We have seen how the parties to the conspiracy sought to pounce on the great achievments that have been scored in unified Beirut as soon as a difference of opinion emerged among the members of the government on the security plan in the mountain. These parties believed that even though these differences were minor ones, they can work to entrench them so that they will become the beginning of the collapse of the regime and the point of no return. However, an agreement was reached this week concerning the beginning of the implementation of the first stage of the security plan in the mountain. One can say that through this agreement they have reached, through their ranking government positions, and through their shouldering of their national responsibilities, the parties to the dispute in Lebanon have deprived the enemies of Lebanon and of the Arab nation of another opportunity. They have aborted the dreams that these enemies wanted to fulfill. These enemies want to place Lebanon under Israeli-U.S. hegemony so that it can be a base from which they can expand and commit aggression at the expense of the Arab homeland.

We in Syria continue to be ready to offer all that will be asked of us to safeguard Lebanon's unity and territorial integrity. We are confident that the presence of a unified and strong Lebanon which draws its strength from its masses and its cohesive legitimate government, will triumph over all of its enemies, whether they are inside or outside Lebanon.

Communists Accuse U.S. of Mininig Red Sea

JN191954 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] The Political Bureau of the Syrian Communist Party asserted in a statement issued today that it is U.S. imperialism which planned the laying of mines in the Red Sea, either directly or through cooperation with Israel, with the aim of creating a new hotbed of tension in the region and justifying the stay of U.S. and NATO fleets in the area in an attempt to threaten the Arab and African national liberation forces. The statement says: The failure of U.S. imperialism and NATO because of the strong blows dealt them in Lebanon made the United States and its allies resort to this conspiracy as a pretext for the continuation of the imperialist military presence in the region.

TISHRIN: Red Sea Mining Serves Israeli Interests

JN180848 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0730 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Damascus, 18 Aug (SANA) — Today's *TISHRIN* indirectly accuses Israel of laying mines in the Red Sea and the Suez Gulf. It affirms that the mining directly suits the Zionist entity's interests. In the "Horizons" column, *TISHRIN* says that Israel since its establishment has had the ambition to be a partner in Arab oil by any means. It seems that the Israeli strategy has found the current opportunity to be suitable for achieving this target. The paper notes that both Arab and Iranian oil is carried by tankers or pipelines through the Red Sea. This is in addition to the fact that the Saudi oil and the projected Iraqi-Jordanian pipeline also flow in this sea.

TISHRIN explains that Israel wants to make people understand that its approval is required to move oil through the Red Sea and to keep this movement secure. It also wants to emphasize one of two solutions that oil exporting countries have — either agree to extend the pipelines to the Haifa terminals and other terminals, or agree to pay the price of remaining silent over its passage through the Red Sea. Thus, Israel becomes a partner in the oil game's economy and security, and even in its prices and in selling and buying. Hence, Israel will realize an old dream and will solve the problems of its deteriorating economy.

The paper believes that the Americans know who is responsible for this mining and are aware of the importance of an Israeli partnership in Arab and other oil. They are also aware of the significance of this role in asserting not only the Israeli military and political hegemony on the region, which Washington has guaranteed for Israel since its establishment, but also the Israeli economic hegemony, which solves Israel's problems, relieves the Europeans, and removes the Americans' anxiety concerning the oil usage for political and economic reasons.

Damascus Warns of U.S.-Israeli 'Aggression'

JN171306 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, signs of one of the most dangerous plots against Arab territory, people, and existence loom on the horizon of imperialist-Zionist policy. This plot is accompanied by diplomatic and military moves which carry means, excuses, and justifications for a large-scale aggression. Unfortunately, Arab regimes which are concerned only about the facilities they provide the United States are supporting U.S. plans and diplomacy. Consequently, this situation will reflect on the facilities sought by Israel to reinforce its aggression and consolidate its occupation of Arab territories from southern Lebanon to Rafah.

Israel, which has revealed its cards through its border changes in southern Lebanon, is preparing to impose a fait accompli on Lebanon now that the United States has guaranteed many Arab regimes' silence over the annexation and Judaization of the occupied West Bank and Gaza. In light of the Arab silence, U.S. diplomacy is preparing for Israel's aggressive intentions by throwing up a military cordon around the Arab homeland — a cordon which is supported by the NATO forces and by some Arab regimes disavowing the pan-Arab battle against the Zionist occupiers and their U.S. partners.

As the United States has completed the military part of its plan by supplying Israel with arms and by turning the Arab seas into U.S. waters, apostates and defeatists have begun to call on the Arabs to accept either Camp David or military confrontation with the United States, Israel, and the NATO forces. Now that the plot has reached the state of preparation for aggression, it is likely that Syria will be the target and that the United States will carry out its threats to avenge its defeat in Lebanon.

The U.S. Administration believes that its siege of the Arab homeland and seas will enable it and its allies to strike at the Arab oil weapon and any Arab solidarity with Syria and its Armed Forces. It is obvious that Israel and the United States want to create an excuse in the Lebanese arena, whether through plotting against the Lebanese national reconciliation march or by continuing and escalating military provocations in Lebanon. It seems that the U.S. plan did not consider other calculations which are related to the importance of the Middle East and the danger of igniting a powder keg whose consequences and expansion cannot be controlled by the United States. It also seems that in its calculations the United States has forgotten the invincible, solid Syrian stand. Syria, which confronted and aborted U.S.

plans and calculations, beginning with the Camp David accords and ending with the 17 May agreement, is still declaring its stand and asserting its option — to defend Arab rights regardless of the price and the parties which attempt to obliterate and liquidate them.

We do not deny that the United States is capable of plotting or that Israel is capable of aggression. We do not disregard the fact that many Arab rulers are more sincere with the United States than the United States is with Israel. However, every matter has its own calculations and needs. We reject U.S. disregard of our people and nation. We firmly refuse to relinquish our rights. We are confident that isolated and condemned regimes are weaker than the Arab masses' power and their pan-Arab needs. Syria is confident that the U.S. plans and schemes are doomed to failure and that premeditated aggression will not prevent the Arab will from achieving victory and liberation.

Cabinet Briefing on Security Turns to Politics

TA191037 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] The Cabinet met today as the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs. The ministers were briefed on security affairs by the chief of staff and the chief of the IDF Intelligence Branch. After the short session, the Likud ministers convened in order to consolidate a document on political issues to be presented by the Likud team to the Alignment team this afternoon. Our correspondent Arye Golan reports that the Likud ministers are at present discussing the issue of settlements, which is a bone of contention with the Alignment.

Cabinet Reviews Lebanon, Husayn Proposal

TA200809 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 20 Aug 84 p 1

[Asher Wallfish report]

[Text] The Cabinet reviewed developments in Lebanon at its weekly session yesterday, as reports about plans for a partial withdrawal in the south increased in frequency and intensity.

The ministers heard reports from Chief of Staff Rav-Aluf [Lieutenant General] Moshe Levi and the Israel Defence Forces intelligence head Aluf [Major General] Ehud Baraq. The entire proceedings were declared a session of the Ministerial Defence Committee, whose deliberations are classified.

On another issue which did not come up before the Cabinet, acting Cabinet Secretary Mikha'el Nir told reporters after the session that Israel rejects the proposal by King Husayn of Jordan for a Middle East peace conference sponsored by the UN to include Palestinian Arabs and the superpowers.

"The Camp David agreements provide the best framework for future talks. The solution to the conflict must be based on direct talks between Israel and Jordan," Nir said.

King Husayn called for the conference in an interview he gave Cable News Network of the U.S. on Saturday.

Peres May End Talks if No Agreement Reached

TA190622 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Likud leaders are meeting today to consolidate their paper on political and defense affairs in preparation for the meeting of Alignment and Likud political teams later today. Our party affairs correspondent Amnon Nadav reports that if no agreement is reached today on the settlement issue in particular, the Alignment may end the national unity talks with the Likud, leaving Shim'on Peres free to renew efforts to form a narrowly-based government.

A senior Likud source told our correspondent that it is not prepared to accept any formula that leads to a settlement freeze. On another matter, the Labor Party decided to oppose the idea of a rotating premiership in the wake of MAPAM's threat to withdraw from the Alignment were such a plan accepted.

Peres, Weizman Agree on Unity Government

TA201020 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 20 Aug 84 p 1

[Arye Kinarti report]

[Excerpt] Yesterday Shim'on Peres and 'Ezer Weizman held a meeting in Tel Aviv at Peres' request. The isssue of a national unity government was discussed. Peres reported to Weizman on the negotiations between the Alignment and the Likud.

Peres told *DAVAR*: "Both of us decided to speed up the establishment of a national unity government." In Peres' opinion, there is a chance for a national unity government.

Responding to questions by *DAVAR*, Weizman refused to give any details of the talk, commenting: "Everything will be fine and a government will be established." To the question of who had initiated the meeting, Weizman said: "What does it matter? Shim'on and I meet from time to time and we have plenty to talk about."

Sources Suggest Navon as Compromise Candidate

TA190914 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 19 Aug 84 p 1

[Tzvi Timor report]

[Text] A move to take a "dramatic step" in the national unity government talks has been consolidated among people close to Shim'on Peres in the Labor Party. Accordingly, an offer will be made to the Likud to form a government headed by Navon, with Peres and Shamir as deputy prime ministers.

This suggestion is meant to allow Peres to give up the premiership without loss of prestige and at the same time to remain party leader. These sources believe that Peres himself will welcome this suggestion if the Likud foils the current negotiations. Our correspondent learned of this suggestion from high-level circles in the Labor Party close to Shim'on Peres.

According to these circles, if the Likud rejects this suggestion, it will still be possible to form — on this basis — a narrowly-based government, because SHAS has already expressed tentative support for a government headed by Navon. In their opinion this suggestion can extricate the negotiations from the current freeze, and perhaps even convince additional parties to support it as a way out of the entanglement.

These circles believe that the economic crisis and the dwindling foreign currency reserves might convince additional elements of the urgent necessity of establishing a government.

It is also believed that through this suggestion Likud leaders will be convinced that even if they ruin Peres' chances of forming a government, the Labor Party can still find a compromise candidate who would attract the support of 61 Knesset Members. In any event, the task of forming the government would not be given to Shamir.

Alignment, Likud Reach Agreement on Lebanon

TA190611 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 19 Aug 84 pp 1, 8

[Excerpts] Tel Aviv — Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and prime minister-designate Shim'on Peres will not hold their long-awaited private meeting until sufficient agreement has been reached between their parties on "matters of substance," Alignment sources said last night.

Shamir and Peres are due to discuss the contentious subject of who will lead the proposed national unity government. They did not meet as expected towards the end of last week due to the failure of Alignment and Likud negotiators to reach agreement on foreign policy matters.

The Alignment, which is expected to initiate the Shamir-Peres meeting, does not intend to do so until the Likud has been "pinned down" on foreign policy issues, the sources said. "If the national unity talks are going to break down, it must be quite clear that it is over substantive and not personal issues," one negotiator stated.

Alignment negotiator MK Moshe Shahal said last night that the Alignment and the Likud are in broad agreement regarding Lebanon and religion.

Regarding the peace process with Jordan, Shahal said that it is unrealistic to demand that Jordan negotiate on the basis of the Camp David accords, which it did not sign. The Alignment's proposal for talks without preconditions is the only realistic alternative, he said.

The Alignment is expecting a week of tough bargaining and brinkmanship this week. Party sources do not expect the Likud to agree to foreign policy formulas until the question of the premiership has been settled — while the Alignment is just as determined not to discuss the premiership until the foreign policy ground rules have been agreed upon.

Shamir, Burg Discuss Unity Government

TA171449 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] At noon Prime Minister Shamir and Minister Burg spoke about the need for a national unity government. After that, Dr Burg told our correspondent Hayim Zissowitz that the end of the war in Lebanon should unify all the parties just as they were united on the eve of the 6-day war. Burg reported to Shamir about the talks with 'Ezer Weizman, during which it was decided to jointly demand [lidrosh] the establishment of a national unity government.

Dr Burg also reported to Yitzhaq Shamir about his appeal to the attorney general regarding his status as acting Knesset speaker. In his appeal to the attorney general, Dr Burg stated that this was imposed upon him by virtue of his being the doyen of the House, but a minister cannot, under any circumstances, be the Knesset speaker. He would like to know what to do.

Levi Believes Unity Government Possible

TA171410 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 17 Aug 84 Weekly Supplement p 6

[Arye Tzimuki's "The Political Week Column": "David Levi: The Claim That I Am Foiling a National Unity Government Is a Crude Lie"]

[Excerpts] "A crude lie" — this is how Deputy Prime Minister David Levi this week viewed the accusations leveled against him claiming he is acting to foil the establishment of a national unity government. To his colleagues in the Likud he said: "If any of you thinks that in the talks with the Alignment I express opinions different from those agreed upon by all of us, let him stand up!"

Levi believes there is no obstacle which cannot be overcome if the two sides are truly aware of the need to come to an understanding on the issue of a national unity government. He maintains that understanding can be reached with the Alignment on all the issues, without either of the sides having to forgo its principles and stands, and this is also what he told Peres: "You will not be able to convince me to concede my stands, and similarly, I will not be able to convince you. However," he added, "If the talks fail, the responsibility will fall on the two big parties."

During the talks with the Alignment, Levi raised a series of suggestions which he believes can solve most of the difficulties surrounding the establishment of a national unity government:

Duration of the government — according to Levi, no timetable should be set beforehand, because if a limited time is set, every faction will be able to act according to its narrow interests, holding a stop watch in its hands.

The Lebanese war — it is easy to arrive at a formula which will allow the IDF to withdraw from Lebanon while preserving security in the northern border. Regarding the war in Lebanon, Levi always took a unique stand and was one of the few in the Cabinet who criticized the "grand plan" of Ari'el Sharon.

Negotiations with Husayn — Levi believes it is by all means possible to call on Husayn to join the peace process without adding the words "without preconditions," and this way a compromise will be arrived at between the Likud and the Alignment on this issue.

Settlements — Levi thinks a public freeze on settlements should not be publicly declared, because such a declaration can cause damage. It is enough to say that the government will decide on settlements — by a majority.

Economics — The main reason for the establishment of a national unity government, in the opinion of both the Likud and the Alignment, is first and foremost the need to carry out daring initiatives in order to save the economy. On this issue there already appears to be an agreement in principle between the Likud and the Alignment that it will be necessary to appeal to the nation to make sacrifices and to show willingness to lower its standard of living — this while attempting to prevent unemployment.

It is true that the Likud leadership has already decided several times that Yitzhaq Shamir will remain prime minister, but this should not be considered as an ultimatum. Levi believes that on this issue too, agreement can be reached — on the condition that the two sides are convinced that there is no other alternative than a national unity government.

Likud, Alignment Delegations Make Progress

TA191814 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] At the end of a 3 and 1/2 hour long meeting, the heads of the Likud and Alignment delegations on the political committee said that progress was made, and that the two sides tried to make a sincere effort to reach an agreement. Yitzhaq Navon and David Levi both said that the Alignment and the Likud have reached an agreement [heskem] on the policy that will be employed in Lebanon. That agreement [sikum] stipulates that the unity government will take steps to safeguard the northern settlements and withdraw the IDF from southern Lebanon within a short period of time, the duration of which will be determined by the government.

Our correspondent Hayim Zissowitz reports that there is still no agreement [haskama] over the settlements or the negotiations with Jordan. Yitzhaq Navon said that something can be expected to be agreed upon in terms of the settlement issue. In regard to Jordan, he said, the positions were clarified in a manner that could be conducive to reaching an agreement [heskem]. The two delegations will meet again in Tel Aviv in 2 days.

Levi, Navon Comment on Talks

TA191848 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Report from the Knesset in Jerusalem by political correspondent Yoram Ronen after the Likud-Alignment working teams' "summit" on 19 August — live]

[Text] The members of the Likud and Alignment working teams left their meeting this evening feeling much more elated than they did a few days ago, after their last meeting, because agreement [haskama] on one issue — Lebanon — was reached, and this is how it reads: The Cabinet will take action to safeguard the northern settlements and to withdraw the IDF from Lebanon within a short period of time, a period whose length will be determined by the Cabinet.

Thus, there is an agreement [haskama] on the Lebanese issue; on the settlement issue some agreement [hesder] can be foreseen, but no mutually acceptable formula has been found yet.

We have here Yitzhaq Navon from the Alignment and David Levi from the Likud, both members of the working teams:

Mr Navon, do you believe that by Tuesday, the date for your next meeting, it will be possible to reach an agreement [haskama] on the settlements as well?

[Navon] We have reached an agreement [haskama] on a number of points. Lebanon was one of them and it is important; however, we also reached an agreement [haskama] regarding the manner in which the inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza District will participate in shaping their future — which will be according to the Camp David accords. There were some other articles on which anyone who is not an expert on the specifics and the details will find it difficult to understand or grasp,, but all in all I believe progress has been made. Some points still remain contentious. We, and the Likud, have submitted papers. We will review the remarks that have been made — and attacks were exchanged on the matter — and we will meet again on Tuesday, making a concerted effort to bridge these gaps to the extent possible, even on those issues that are highlighted, such as the negotiations with Jordan and the settlements.

[Ronen] Mr Levi, as far as we know, the Likud ministers decided, following consultations, to insist on the Likud's position not to effect any freeze on the settlements, and that a decision on every new settlement will be made by a simple government majority. Has the Alignment been forthcoming on this?

[Levi] It would be impossible to say that we have concluded the negotiations. We suggested some things, and our proposals were not rejected out of hand; rather, they constitute food for thought. The Alignment delegation will hold an internal debate, and will also confer with its own institutions naturally. We are all hoping that the formula that will define and anchor these principles will indeed be found. Judging by the atmosphere that prevailed today, and the effort each one of us has made to be amenable to the other's policies, I hope we will be able to witness the outcome of this effort on Tuesday.

[Ronen] Mr Navon, allow me one more question on the settlements: Why are you afraid to allow the Cabinet to approve the establishment of new settlements by a simple majority? Do you fear that the Alignment and its supporters will not enjoy a majority in the next Cabinet?

[Navon] We draw a distinction between two types of settlements: those that already exist, to which another rule applies — and with a simple majority only the Cabinet will decide on their existence, or their future; and those that are new settlements.

Here one proposal was that a two-thirds majority be allowed to decide on the matter, but it was overruled; another was that their fate be determined in accordance with an agreement [haskama] by the two large factions. This proposal, too, was not accepted.

We must seek some formula that will emphasize the uniqueness of the topic. I cannot say that we did that today, for if we had, we would have said this.

Yahad, OMETZ Will Not Join Likud-led Government

TA201355 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1344 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Neither Yahad nor OMETZ will join a narrowly-based government led by the Likud. Our correspondent Amnon Nadav has learned that in consultations held by Labor Party leaders with Yiga'el Hurvitz and 'Ezer Weizman, the latter said they support a unity government, but that if no such government can be established, they have no intention of joining a narrowly-based government led by the Likud. Our correspondent notes that in that case, Yitzhaq Shamir will not be able to set up a coalition that can count on the support of more than 59 Knesset Members — and that includes the National Religious Party, which has so far refrained from stating its position if it is impossible to set up a unity government.

Settlements Council Condemns Alignment-Likud Deal

TA171444 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] The Council of Jewish Settlements in Judaea and Samaria has condemned the conclusion [sikum] by the Alignment and the National Religious Party (NRP) concerning settlement in Judaea and Samaria. In its announcement, the Council of Jewish Settlements in Judaea and Samaria says it regards these formulations as a grave danger, not only to the furthering of the settlement project, but to its very existence. In its opinion, this is a question of a decline in the settlements and thus the NRP has, in fact, adopted the Allon plan. Our correspondent Shalom Oren reports that the Council of Settlements has distributed this announcement among the NRP leaders and its Knesset members.

Arens Concerned Over Comments by IDF Officers

TA191011 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 19 Aug 84 p 2

[Military correspondent Yosef Walter report]

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens has begun a round of talks dealing with current issues with top IDF officers. Arens decided to hold these talks following reports in the media, some of them dealing with Lebanon, and others touching the minister personally. In talks held lately by the defense minister with various people in the IDF and the security establishment, Arens expressed concern over comments of top officers in Lebanon, which according to him interferes with Israel's battle against terrorism and causes a breakdown in morale.

Ministers Said To Criticize Arens' Policy

TA191233 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 19 Aug 84 p 2

[Ilan Kfir report]

[Text] "Israel's situation in southern Lebanon is steadily growing worse, but the defense minister is not allowing any policy changes to be made." This is claimed by ministers and security affiars experts.

According to a high-level minister, the security situation in southern Lebanon is much more complicated than it appears from the security debriefings in the Cabinet. Claims made by Minister Arens and his adviser Uri Lubrani, that progress is being made in contacts with local groups on security arrangements, are not corroborated in the area. The Shi'ites are not accepting any security arrangement that will allow an IDF withdrawal from Lebanon. Shi'ite terrorism is becoming Israel's immediate security problem. The expectations from the army of southern Lebanon are also exaggerated.

In a discussion held by the government about 6 months ago, it was decided that the IDF would present recommendations for a redeployment in Lebanon — this in preparation for the beginning of the evacuation. The government also authorized the prime minister and defense minister to make decisions which would then be brought for government approval. Security affairs experts consolidated a plan which would allow a withdrawal while maintaining security arrangements. The defense minister, however, rejected the recommendations and is not allowing new recommendations to be made.

Cabinet ministers also claim that Arens' briefings on the situation in Lebanon, given to the Ministerial Committee on Security Affiars, are superficial, amateurish, and add nothing new. Most of the supposedly secret information has already appeared in the international and Israeli news media.

"As long as there is no new government, the present government must continue to make decisions and to function," claimed a top minister. "One cannot hide behind the excuse of a caretaker government and of negotiations for the establishment of a new government in order to prevent decisions from being made. The soldiers serving in Lebanon would never forgive the politicians for postponing the discussion of their plight and the Lebanese situation, and this due to such nonpressing problems such as negotiations with Jordan and the Who Is a Jew question."

Likud Ministers' Meeting on Political Issues Ends

TA191201 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1150 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] At the end of the Likud ministers' meeting a short while ago, Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i said: We have formulated new proposals, but the Likud is not giving up its basic positions. In their meeting, the ministers formulated the Likud's proposal for the basic political guidelines of the national unity government, in preparation for this evening's meeting with the Alignment team. 'Oz Frankel, our political correspondent, reports that on the two main bones of contention, settlement policy and the continuation of the peace process, the Likud's document repeats the known Likud positions, including the development of existing settlements, approval of new settlements by simple Cabinet majority, and negotiations with Jordan on the basis of Camp David.

Upon leaving the meeting, Minister Moda'i added that the formulation of positions, as consolidated in the ministers' meeting, can be acceptable to the Alignment. This we will of course see after the meeting today at 1700.

Burg Ineligible To Serve as Knesset Speaker

TA191530 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1320 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] In a written opinion to Interior Minister Dr Yosef Burg, Attorney General Professor Yitzhaq Zamir has ruled that Dr Burg cannot also fill the post of Knesset speaker. Prof Zamir writes that all the funcitons of a Knesset speaker do not fit in with the function of a minister. It is not appropriate, the attorney general writes, for a member of the executive branch, namely the government, also to be a member of the legislature, that is, the Knesset. Therefore, the most senior Knesset member who is not a minister or deputy minister will function as Knesset speaker until a permanent speaker is chosen and he will open the next Knesset session.

Our correspondent Avshalom Ginosar notes that in his letter to the interior minister, Prof Zamir also states that a situation in which the Knesset is led by its oldest member is not desirable and it is appropriate that the Knesset choose its speaker and deputies as soon as possible.

Senator Specter Reports Husayn Pessimistic

TA171416 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] King Husayn is pessimistic about the chance of making progress in the peace process with Israel because of unreserved U.S. support for Israel. U.S. Congressman [as received] Arlen Specter from Pennsylvania met this morning with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in Jerusalem and said he had heard from King Husayn that the absolute U.S. support underlies Israel's inability to compromise.

Yitzhaq Shamir replied that the Arabs should understand that peace in the area will be achieved on the basis of the friendship between Israel and the United States.

Discusses Issues With Shamir

TA191137 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 19 Aug 84 p 3

[Refa'el Mann report]

[Text] The settlements established in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip have nothing to do with the political future of these territories, which will be determined according to the autonomy agreement. These remarks were made last Friday by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in his talk with U.S. Senator Arlen Specter.

Shamir said that in any political arrangement worked out, Jews will continue to preserve their right to live in all parts of Eretz Yisra'el.

In the talk with the Republican senator from Pennsylvania, the prime minister said that the only way to advance the peace process is through the Camp David accords, which also include the autonomy plan. Five years following the establishment of the autonomy institutions Israel will discuss the future of the territories with the chosen representatives of the inhabitants. Shamir said: "According to the Camp David accords, the Jordanian delegation to the talks can include Palestinian representatives, but Israel will not agree to hold negotiations with the PLO."

In his talk with the U.S. guest the prime minister reiterated Israel's firm stand against the sale of sophisticated U.S. weapons to the Arab states, including the sale of "Stinger" missiles to Saudi Arabia.

Husayn Proposal for Conference Spurs Debate

Nisim Sees Nothing New

TA190541 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0505 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Justice Minister Moshe Nisim sees nothing new in the proposal by Jordan's King Husayn to convene an international peace conference on the Middle East conflict. Moshe Nisim does not see any point in it nor does he see any point in including the Soviet Union in Middle East talks either.

[Nisim — live] Well, this proposal is nothing new. This is an old proposal which has already been raised a number of times by King Husayn as well as by others. This is a mere declaration rather than a proposal which is intended to promote the peace process. It is common knowledge that a proposal to include the Soviet Union in Middle East negotiations, when it is hostile toward Israel and does not maintain diplomatic relations with it, would not be relevant. This proposal is not new nor does it herald anything new for the peace process.

MA'ARIV on Husayn Proposal

TA190822 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 19 Aug 84

[From the review of midday press editorials]

[Text] *MA'ARIV* reacts to King Husayn's proposal to hold an international conference with the participation of the two superpowers. The paper believes King Husayn's call rejects U.S., Likud, and Alignment proposals for settling the Middle East conflict. The paper does not, however, believe that his call will have any impact on the Likud-Alignment negotiations. Politicians have always proved their talent to continue arguing about meaningless matters.

Burg Rejects Husayn's Bid

TA191103 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Israel's chief autonomy negotiator, Minister Yosef Burg rejects Jordan's call for an international conference on the Middle East. King Husayn made the appeal in an interview with the American cable network.

In Jerusalem, Interior Minister Burg told reporter David Essing that no one should forget two things when it comes to Husayn's claims to Judaea and Samaria:

[Begin recording] [Burg] Firstly, that by an act of transgression, Trans-Jordan, in 1948, came from the east of the Jordan to the west of the Jordan, and conquered parts of the then called Palestine. Then, in 1967, he entered the war and lost. So, there are two things that they say, that first of all that he has no legal right to be here, or to have any demand. But more than this, there's nothing new in it. Second, I would like to add: It is a very interesting invitation; talking about an international conference means that Jordan wants the Russians to be present. He wants also the radical Arabs to be present, and those are people that we have reason to believe he doesn't love too much.

[Essing] Are you talking about the PLO?

[Burg] That is his problem, at this very moment, and our problem is the terror of the PLO, not the politics of the PLO, because we don't sit with them.

[Essing] At the same time, King Husayn is talking about getting back to [UN Security Council Resolution] 242. Why doesn't Israel accept this and give up the autonomy negotiations that seem to be getting nowhere?

[Burg] As far as I understood, he wants certain changes in 242. He doesn't take it as a virgin island, but he wants changes, first of all. Second, the interpretation of 242, as people could perhaps remember, is in very different explanations. Our interpretation is: from territories. The other explanation is: from the territories. So, we know that's quite a difference. I believe that the autonomy idea was a very good one, and I believe that the Egyptians at this stage, and As-Sadat was still alive, had the impression that this is the best solution for the moment that can be thought of. [end recording]

Eban Somewhat Encouraged

TA190632 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0505 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Alignment Knesset Member Abba Eban is encouraged by the fact that King Husayn did not mention the PLO in his remarks, but that he preferred to speak of Palestinians instead. However, according to Eban, Husayn's position with regard to amending UN Resolution 242 is unacceptable.

[Eban — live] I paid close attention to the fact that, according to Husayn, Palestinians must participate in the determination of their future. Husayn did not speak of the PLO. I would like to note here that Menahem Begin, as prime minister, signed the Camp David accords in which there is a clear reference to the participation of Palestinians without mentioning the PLO.

However, as for amending the UN Security Council resolution — this, in my opinion, would undermine the only agreed-upon basis for talks between Israel and Jordan. This resolution which enjoys international as well as Israeli support should not be amended.

In addition, King Husayn spoke of Soviet participation in the talks. However, it is the Soviet Union itself which has kept it from undertaking a mediation role by refusing to renew relations with the State of Israel. In short, if King Husayn wants to conduct negotiations with us, I view this as positive. However, the issue of procedures, the participants in the mediation, the circumstances, and conditions — all of these should be agreed to between Israel and Jordan because they cannot be decided through an interview with a U.S. television network.

PLP Leaders Favor Proposal

TA191524 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1340 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Tel Aviv, 19 Aug (ITIM) — Knesset Members [MK's], Muhammad Mi'ari and Matityahu Peled of the Progressive List for Peace have sent telegrams to Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres stating that the PLO leaders have already agreed to hold negotiations with Israel within the framework of a conference, and that this is the only realistic way to solve the Middle East conflict in order to reach a comprehensive peace.

In a lecture to students in Beersheba, MK Matityahu Peled said that what is happening now resembles a play in the theater of the absurd. In their talks about a joint government, the Likud and the Alignment are discussing the conditions for negotiations with King Husayn and both are proposing absurd and unacceptable conditions; at the same time they are deaf to King Husayn's proposals. The Likud-Alignment talks are completely unrelated to reality and are reminiscent of the polemics by the theological scholars of the Middle Ages about how many kings can stand on the head of a pin.

Husayn Called Nonissue in Coalition Talks

TA191334 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 19 Aug 84 p 8

[Editorial: "Husayn Is Disrupting Negotiations"]

[Text] King Husayn yesterday threw a monkey wrench in the coalition negotiations. While the Likud and the Alignment were busy negotiating the difficult question of offering Husayn negotiations with or without preconditions, the king came up with his own preconditions which the two big parties will find hard to accept.

First of all he completely identified with the Soviet suggestion that peace in the Middle East be the subject of a conference to be attended by the two superpowers. Then he expressed distrust in the United States and announced that it had lost the ability to serve as mediator between the Arabs and Israel. And finally he stated that UN Resolution 242 should serve as the basis for negotiations; that is, not Camp David and not the autonomy. And he expressed anger at the Alignment for not being willing to accept the principle of full peace in exchange for complete withdrawal.

Those who sat and waited the past 2 years for the day when King Husayn would agree to join negotiations based on the Reagan plan received another negative answer. The Jordanian King made it clear that he would not attend such negotiations; at most he would be willing to come to negotiations supported by the two superpowers. But the idea of an international Middle East conference joined by the Soviet Union has already been rejected by the United States, and the Israeli Government has also expressed reservations about it.

Husayn's announcement, therefore, implies a triple rejection: He rejects the American invitation; he rejects the Likud's suggestions, and he also rejects the Alignment's territorial compromise plan.

On the face of it, his announcement should make the negotiations between the Alignment and the Likud easier. If Jordan is no longer a partner to negotiations, then there is no more need to negotiate with it on the basis of Camp David or without preconditions. The Jordanian clause of the parties' planned guidelines can be put in deep freeze and the burning questions which must be answered can be quickly considered.

However, in Israel logic is not always followed, and our politicians have proved more than once their ability to continue a debate which has lost all relevance. Not every party activist is willing to forego his dreams because of this or that statement made by an Arab ruler, and without a doubt, they will find ways to clash in the future too about what should have been offered to Husayn had he been willing to give up his pro-Soviet stand.

Nigerian Muslim Leaders Pay First Visit

TA181921 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] This evening two Muslim leaders from Nigeria arrived in Israel — the king of the Yoruba tribe, (Oba Situade), and the emir of Kano, the main town of northern Nigeria, (Al haji) Bayero. Officially, the pair have come for a visit to the sacred sites, but our correspondent Gid'on Remez reports that meetings have been arranged for them with the president of Israel and the prime minister. This is the first visit by Nigerian statesmen since relations between the two countries were severed. It is also the first visit of any sort by Muslim leaders from that country. There are 29 million people in the Yoruba tribe, that is, about a third of the population of Nigeria.

Confer With Shamir

TA191656 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1405 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Speaking to two Nigerian visitors, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir expressed his hope that ambassadors will soon be exchanged between Lagos and Jerusalem, for the mutual benefit of both countries. The guests, the king of Yoruba and the amir of Kano, came on a private visit to the holy sites, but conferred with the prime minister and the president today. Here is a report by our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel.

[Begin recording] [Frankel] The king of Yoruba told Yitzhaq Shamir he hopes relations between the two countries will be good, like those between a husband and wife who have fought and been reconciled. The king, who is the leader of a tribe of 26 million people, nostalgically recalled his previous visit to Israel, in 1961, and talked about his many friends from Israel who are working in Nigeria in various spheres of agriculture, business, and development. The prime minister said that Israel cherishes deep feelings toward Nigeria, which is one of the most important countries in Africa. He added that it is not normal for there to be no full diplomatic reltions between Nigeria and Israel. Let us recall that the two countries do not have any sort of official ties.

Shamir and his guests thus agreed on the need for an improvement of bilateral relations. But let us emphasize that the two figures from Nigeria are spiritual, not political, leaders, so that the importance of this visit lies in the very fact that it is being held: For the first time in 10 years Nigerian leaders are here in Israel, if only for a private visit and a tour of the holy places. Furthermore, for the first time, one of the guests — the amir of Kano — is a Muslim.

The Foreign Ministry regards this visit as a sign of renewing closeness between Israel and the black continent, even if no political changes are expected to take place consequently. Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche had this to say:

[Kimche] This is a private visit, and this is the way we will regard it, too. At the same time, it is very important for such central and important figures as these visitors to find it necessary to visit and meet with the leaders of Israel. We certainly regard this as a positive development.

[Frankel] Mr Kimche, you have recently returned from an African tour. Would it be possible to say the situation there heralds an imminent push in Israeli foreign policy in Africa, following this visit?

[Kimche] I hope so. [end recording]

Kimche: Visit Important

TA191435 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1000 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] The two Nigerian visitors are currently lunching with Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche at the Plaza Hotel in Jerusalem. Our correspondent Gid'on Remez is there:

[Remez — live] The Nigerian leaders came on a pilgrimage visit but also on business. They are going to hold business talks as well as meetings with the prime minister and the president of the state later today. The Muslim amir from northern Nigeria and the Christian Yoruba king did not want to be interviewed before the meetings. However, Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche assessed the significance of the visit in the following manner:

[Begin recording] [Kimche] They have come here on a private visit, on a pilgrimage to the holy sites in Jerusalem. At the same time, the fact that they have arrived and are prepared to meet with the heads of state, I definitely view as important and useful, an expression of the deep feelings of friendship toward Israel by an increasing number of people in Africa.

[Remez] Have you any indication of whether this visit was coordinated with the political leaders in Nigeria, with the inclination perhaps toward improvement in relations, toward some rapprochement?

[Kimche] It is difficult for me to believe they would come here if they thought this would run counter to the desire or will of the Nigerian rulers.

[Remez] There will probably be some bad-mouthing which will try to link this visit with the last affair involving Israel and Nigeria. What will be the reply to such assumptions?

[Kimche] Nonsense. [end recording]

[Remez — live] Although the Foreign Ministry director general calls this nonsense, I have learned from knowledgeable sources that the affair involving the kidnapping of Dikko in London, in which Israelis were involved, was a purely personal adventure of these Israelis indeed. Thanks to this, however, Israel has gained great popularity in Nigeria, and this may have helped somewhat in paving the way for the present visit.

Further Comment

TA191726 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Report by Gid'on Remez, editor of the foreign news section — recorded]

[Excerpt] The prime minister told the Nigerian guests that when two countries whose interests do not clash do not maintain official ties, the situation is abnormal. He expressed his hope that relations will be resumed, noting Israel's ability to help Nigeria in the sphere of agriculture.

The president told the guests that Israel does not ask countries that renew their relations with it to sever their relations with other countries. The guests promised to relate what they saw and heard here back in Lagos.

Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche is optimistic, but at the same time cautious, in assessing the visit and its consequences:

[Kimche] Let us not run; things do not change that drastically, that quickly; yet it is a manifestation of the great friendship the Nigerians, in general, cherish toward Israel, and it unquestionably heralds greater openness. However, the way to full relations will undoubtedly still take time. We are not trying to create expectations that are too exaggerated insofar as this visit is concerned.

[Remez] Among other possible stumbling blocks on this road, Kimche noted Arab money and the fear of Libya. Nonetheless, the arrival of the two important traditional leaders from Nigeria could take place only with the consent of the ruling administration, and it is bound to receive great coverage back home.

West African Sources Comment

TA201023 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 20 Aug 84 p 1

[Tamar Golan report from Africa]

[Text] The visit to Jerusalem by the two leaders from Nigeria, and particularly that of Amir Bayero of Kano, has aroused attention and great surprise in West Africa.

Political sources in West Africa are saying that the visit will have far-reaching results which could lead to a renewal of diplomatic relations, not only between Israel and Nigeria but also with other countries in Africa.

A U.S. diplomat in Abidjan, the capital of the Ivory Coast, told *MA'ARIV*: "I do not know the reasoning that led the amir of Kanu to go to Jerusalem, but there is no doubt that, from the political aspect, this is a breakthrough. To date, only Christian figures from Africa have visited your country, but this is the first time that a top-ranking Muslim spiritual leader is visiting Israel."

It is true that this is not the first time that senior African personalities have visited Israel since the severance of diplomatic relations in 1973, but no eminent Muslim Nigerian figure has ever visited Israel.

A foreign diplomatic source in the Ivory Coast said that the amir's trip to Israel could not have been made had he not received approval from the president of Nigeria, the Christian General Buhari.

African Relations Reviewed

TA190733 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0505 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] This morning Jerusalem political circles are predicting renewed momentum for the process of renewing relations between Israel and African countries. Israel will soon open liaison offices in two African capitals. Two Nigerian leaders arrived in Israel last night, and they will meet with the president and the prime minister today. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports:

[Begin recording] Israel's return to the black continent was not as dramatic or rapid as promised or expected, but the process is continuing and is apparently going to gain new momentum. Foreign Ministry officials said this week that a resumption of relations with African countries on a large scale is imminent.

Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko will make a state visit in October, if a new government is formed by then. Israel will soon open two liaison offices, two representations, in two African countries.

Two Nigerian leaders arrived in Israel yesterday for a visit characterized as a pilgrimage to holy sites, but during which they will also meet with the president and the prime minister. The two leaders are the amir of Kano from northern Nigeria and the Yoruba king, the leader of a tribe numbering no fewer than 26 million people. The visit by the Muslim amir is the more interesting one. This is an unprecedented move which apparently heralds Israel's penetration into Muslim parts of Africa as well, areas entirely closed to us in the past. This is also evidence of the declining influence of Arab countries, particularly Saudi Arabia; it turns out that the enormous, demonic [last word in English] power previously attributed to Arab oil money does not always pass the test of reality.

Israelis who returned from Lagos, the Nigerian capital, also tell of the great popularity we enjoy there as a result of the attempted kidnapping of former Nigerian Minister Dikko in London.

Other Muslim countries on this continent maintain ties with Israel, but on the unofficial level. In the past year there were reports of contacts between Israel, on the one hand, and Cameroon and Guinea, on the other, and these contacts may be followed up soon.

Jerusalem is maintaining overt and other relations with leaders of nearly 20 African countries. Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche returned from a visit to Africa last week, and this was not his first visit to Africa this past year. The Foreign Ministry is pointing to considerable improvement in the way this continent's countries have voted at international conferences held over the last 2 years. The Arab countries have enjoyed increasingly less African support for the anti-Israeli draft resolutions they have submitted at these conferences.

The story of Israel's return to Africa begins with the single, Jewish or Israeli businessman and continues with large companies and unofficial Israeli aid, but does not always end with diplomatic relations. Those dealing with Israeli-African relations can tell you of an African country which severed relations with us with a great deal of fanfare a few years ago. Today, however, there is a large Koor representation there, and the Israeli passport is a highly honored entry card. Nevertheless, one cannot yet talk of official diplomatic relations with this country. [end recording]

Shi'ites Riot During IDF Search of Village

TA171350 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 17 Aug 84 p 3

[Yehuda Tzur report]

[Excerpt] Riots erupted in the Shi'ite village of Ma'rakah while IDF forces were trying to conduct searches and carry out detentions there.

An IDF patrol arrived in the Shi'ite village east of Tyre to carry out searches and detentions. Enroute to the village it was stopped by a stone barrier where it was surrounded by hundreds of women and children who cursed the soldiers and threw stones at them.

Reinforcements, headed by a senior officer, were called in. Meanwhile, the patrol tried to retreat in order to avoid injuries to the soldiers. While trying to retreat the patrol ran into another barrier, this one erected by soldiers from the Senegalese UNIFIL force, which had come — as they put it — to protect the residents and prevent bloodshed in the area.

Tension mounted in the area, but then a senior officer arrived and convinced the UNIFIL commander in the area to avoid an incident between the two forces. An IDF bulldozer which arrived in the meantime removed the stone barrier, and the IDF force carried out its mission. Sources in UNIFIL say the IDF arrived in the area with reinforcements, including tanks and helicopters, in order to carry out large-scale detentions.

UNIFIL sources claim that their force in the area tried to calm tempers, but they were treated rudely by the IDF soldiers. Military sources say these accusations are exaggerated. The military sources claim there was no incident in the area and that the IDF was not assisted by tanks and helicopters. The military sources added that immediately after high-level Israeli officials arrived on the scene, the sides reached a compromise.

Sources Warn of Increase in Shi'ite 'Terrorism'

TA171334 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 17 Aug 84 p 1

['Aqiva Eldar report]

[Text] Sources in Jerusalem have recently warned of suicide attacks by Shi'ite terrorists against IDF forces in Lebanon. Last week two Shi'ite boys were seriously wounded when explosive charges they were carrying went off near IDF convoys. Sources in Jerusalem fear the emergence of the phenomena known as "children of the keys," that is, Shi'ite children sent to their death in order to receive the keys to the gates of heaven. Middle East studies experts claim — following the increase in attacks against the IDF in the Shi'ite villages — that the Israeli presence has awakened a wave of Shi'ite fanaticism which might also strike Israeli targets across the border.

Despite reports that the IDF has turned over responsibility in large sectors to the soldiers of the army of southern Lebanon, our forces have had to reenter those areas several times lately, after it transpired that soldiers of the army of southern Lebanon together with local Christian residents wanted to carry out acts of revenge against the Palestinian population. Despite claims made by Defense Minister Moshe Arens that the army of southern Lebanon is consolidating its control in southern Lebanon, it has been learned that our forces have been directed to keep an eye on the soldiers of the army of southern Lebanon and not to trust them.

Lately experts claim that the continued presence of the IDF in the Shi'ite villages might in the longer run hurt the security of the Galilee as well. Their advice is to get out quickly and to leave only a small liaison unit in the area. They say it is preferable to send forces to carry out preventive and retaliatory actions if and when the terrorists return to southern Lebanon.

IDF Announces Al-Awwali Bridge Closure

TA180923 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 18 Aug 84

[Text] The Batir ash-Shuf Bridge over the Al-Awwali River will be closed to traffic from Monday to Wednesday next week. The IDF spokesman explains that it will be closed in order to complete arrangements to facilitate the traffic of people and agricultural produce, and prevent the transfer of sabotage material to southern Lebanon.

Hundreds of Haifa Residents Disrupt KAKH Rally

TA191820 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1800 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Hundreds of Haifa residents this afternoon disrupted a KAKH rally in the center of town. Our correspondent Aviva Roger reports that a large police force fenced off the KAKH members and their leader. The demonstrators, including Mayor Gur'el, made a great commotion preventing Kahane from delivering his speech.

Umm al-Fahm Council Rejects Kahane's Request

TA191445 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1145 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] The local council of Umm al-Fahm has rejected Meir Kahane's request to visit the village next week in order to meet the village's representatives and learn its problems. The council answered that the village's problems are well-known to the Israeli authorities and there is no room for Kahane's visit. The council also asked the interior minister to prevent Kahane from entering the village, since this may arouse the inhabitants' anger and give rise to unforeseen consequences.

The Umm al-Fahm council also asked Knesset members to raise this matter in the house plenum. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports that Rabii Kahane announced today that he and his supporters are determined to go to Umm al-Fahm.

Adviser Affirms Legality of Hebron Settlement

TA171805 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
17 Aug 84 p 4

[Pinhas 'Inbari report]

[Text] Pli'a Albeck, who is the Justice Ministry official in charge of legal issues relating to lands used by settlers, yesterday visited Hebron and again affirmed the legality of the settlement in terms of land ownership, and as not damaging Arab property. Pli'a Albeck was escorted by Eliyahu (Domav) from Qiryat Arba', who is responsible for finding Jewish property in Hebron, and who is replacing Menahem Livni, the detained head of the Jewish undergound. There were also high-level officers from the office of the coordinator of activities in the territories, including the former governor of Hebron. Our correspondent notes that last Thursday officers from the Military Government came to visit the settlement in Khirbat ar-Rumaythah and found the place deserted. The settlers were not in the trailers; the soldiers guarding the place actually guarded empty trailers.

'Friends' View Republican Party Platform

TA191929 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] The final version of the U.S. Republican Party's platform refrains from mentioning the Reagan plan, and in the opinion of Israel's friends this is an achievement. Our correspondent Razi Barqay reports that Israel's friends could not persuade the White House to include a clause calling for the transfer of the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem. On this matter, the platform merely states that the city should continue to remain undivided. The Republican Party pledges not to hold talks with the PLO and to prevent the boycotting of Israel in UN institutions. A promise is also included to continue to support Israel militarily, politically, and economically; and the moderate Arab countries are called upon to join the political process.

The Republican Party's convention will open tomorrow night in Dallas, Texas.

U.S. Aid Desired 2 Months Earlier Than Usual

TA200430 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0400 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Israel wants to receive U.S. aid for next year 2 months earlier than usual because of the sharp decrease in foreign currency reserves. This has been learned by our correspondent Me'ir Einstein. The Senate voted to give Israel the aid in one payment this year. Sources in Jerusalem believe that due to the elections in the United States in November there is a good chance of receiving the aid even before the elections. U.S. aid for next year amounts to $2.6 billion.

ALGERIA

Libyan Oil Minister Arrives in Algiers

LD181151 Algiers APS in English 1006 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Algiers, 18 Aug 84, (APS) — Mr Kamil Hasan al-Maqhur, [Libyan oil] minister and [acting OPEC] president arrived yesterday in Algiers where he was greeted at the airport by Mr Belkacem Nabi, CC member, minister of energy and petrochemical industries. In a statement to the press, the [Libyan oil] minister declared: "This visit in Algeria, comes within frame of the OPEC ministerial decision for the consolidation of relations and concertation between the organization member countries." In this regard, he notably laid a stress on pressures and the violent campaign that the organization is facing, that, however, precipitated the sending of the organization delegations in a visit to member countries in Africa, Latin America, Asia and in the Gulf countries. The tour of the OPEC delegation in these countries was crowned with success, the Libyan secretary estimated.

Regarding his visit in our country, Mr al-Maqhur declared [he was] pleased to be in Algiers to undertake consultations, adding that: "Expectations made by the organization council in the 70 ies [as received] proved to be exact with the developments registered at the level of the oil market and the insidious campaigns led against certain members accused of having abandoned the OPEC which, he said, has been facing for a quarter of a century all kinds of plots, after the destructions of so many organizations, it remains henceforth, in the line of sight of imperialism and cartels only the OPEC", the Libyan minister added. [sentence as received].

In his declaration, the Libyan minister had to point out: "The political [words indistinct] of facing all the pressures, thanks to the reinforcement of its unity and its commitment, the respect of the organization's decisions, their implementation as well as the concertation [as received] between member countries, every time it is necessary." As a conclusion, Mr al-Maqhur had to declare that his visit in Algeria has a particular importance as to Algeria's part, its support to Third World countries and its firm attitude before the aims of foreign monopolies. On another turn, the Libyan minister pointed out that "such visits are considered as an action of vigilance before different tendentious manoeuvres aiming at the only and unique source of richness of oil exporting countries".

President Receives Energy Minister, OPEC Chairman

LD181938 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Excerpt] At the presidential palace today President Chadli Benjedid, head of state and secretary-general of the party, received Brother Belkacem Nabi, minister of energy and chemical and petrochemical industries. The minister reviewed with the president his mission within the framework of the OPEC delegation's tour of several OPEC member countries. The brother president also received today Kamil Hasan al-Maqhur, current chairman of OPEC and Libya's petroleum minister.

LIBYA

ICO's Habib Chatti Arrives in Tripoli

LD182058 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1930 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Tripoli, 18 Aug (JANA) — Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO], arrived in Tripoli this afternoon on a visit to the Jamahiriyah. Brother Chatti conveyed warm congratulations to the Jamahiriyah and to the Moroccan people on the historic achievement for the Arab nation, the signing of the treaty of federation between the Jamahiriyah and Morocco.

In a statement to a JANA reporter he said: We support every step toward unity among the fraternal states because this comes from the heart of our objectives at the ICO.

He added: As you know, federation among the Islamic states is one of our political objectives. We also welcome and support every step toward unity whether this be between two or more fraternal states.

Brother Chatti expressed appreciation and gratitude for the support and backing of the Jamahiriyah for the ICO which enables it to tackle issues of concern to the Islamic world. He explained that his visit will be a good opportunity to arrive at practical formulas that help to achieve the success of these issues.

Chatti Congratulates Leaders

LD191405 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution received a message of support and congratulations on the formation of a federation between the Jamahiriyah and Morocco from the secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO], Habib Chatti. Following is the text of the message:

Brother leader, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi; The reaching of agreement between your and brother King Hassan II of Morocco on the establishment of a fedeation between your two countries is considered an important historic event. It constitutes a cornerstone in the construction of the greater Maghreb and a positive step towards the unity of the Arab nation and the Islamic states. While I present the warmest congratulations on this great achievement, which is in response to the will of our peoples, I pray to God almighty that he will provide you with his support to move forward until the hopes of the Arab Maghreb peoples in particular and the Arab and Islamic nation in general.

At-Turayki Meets With Chatti

LD191427 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Excerpt] This morning Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, secretary of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, had a meeting with Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO], who is currently visiting the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah in the service of Islam and Muslims throughout the world was discussed. The oppression of Muslims in the Philippines was also discussed and the need to support the struggle of Muslims in the Philippines by offering financial, political, and military aid to the Moro Liberation Front to enable it to repel the plots aimed at Muslims there was stressed.

Developments in the Arab region, the imperialist and Zionist intrigues against the Arab nation, and the situation in the Arab Gulf region were discussed. The activities of the ICO and affiliated bodies and institutes were reviewed. Chatti lauded the Jamahiriyah's efforts to support Islam and Muslims everywhere and the increasing attention the brother leader of the Revolution has paid to the spread of Islam in the world.

Al-Qadhdhafi, Syrian President Hold Phone Talks

LD180152 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Telephone contact took place yesterday [17 August] between the brother leader and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad.

Egyptian Paper's Mine-Planting Allegations Denied

LD192337 Tripoli JANA in English 1752 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Tripoli, Dhulqidah 22, August 19, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — *AL-AHRAM*, [the] Egyptian Government newspaper, has alleged that the mines which were planted in the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea are part of an arms deal between Libya and Italy. *AL-AHRAM* government newspaper's allegations are by now a usual example of fabrications and false allegations and fall within the framework of the campaign of lies circulated by Sadatist newspapers which have a history of hostility against Jamahiriyah.

Jamahiriyah had officially declared that it had no links whatsoever with the planting of mines in the Gulf of Suez and the Red Sea and considered the affair as a conspiracy to step up imperialist presence in the region. *AL-AHRAM* government newspaper's publication therefore can only be an echo of America's hostile fabrications aimed at covering up for the base role played by the Egyptian regime to pass this conspiracy.

MOROCCO

Boucetta on Treaty With Libya

LD181427 Rabat MAP in English 1200 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Rabat, Aug 18 (MAP) — Libya's stance on the Sahara issue emanates from her unionist view which rejects artificial entities, outlined Mr M'Hamed Boucetta, Moroccan minister of state and secretary general of the Istiqlal Party (conservative). In a declaration to the press published Friday by the party's organ *AL-'ALAM* (in Arabic), Mr Boucetta indicated that despite the political and diplomatic explanations that can be made on the Moroccan-Libyan treaty, instituting a union of states between the two countries, in light of the Sahara issue, the event itself has substantially modified the situation in the Arab Maghreb. Libya, he added, rejects the solution of micro-states created artificially.

Since the visit Colonel al-Qadhdhafi had paid to Morocco last year (June 1983), Libya had stopped supporting the assailants of Morocco, recalled Mr Boucetta who qualified the treaty as a fundamental element of a real willingness to edify the Arab Maghreb.

Beyond the reaction that the Oujda treaty might raise and the attempts to compare it with the agreement concluded last year between Algeria and Tunisia, there are practical aspects that one must not neglect mainly economic, cultural and social ones, the minister of state said. To face the economic blocs, the European one mainly, or to solve underdevelopment problems in what is called the countries of the south, an agreement of that kind lays the real and concrete basis to iron out these difficulties, Mr Boucetta explained.

The minister of state then recalled that the Libyan leader had undertaken during the past months a campaign for Arab and Palestinian issues and dispatched emissaries to all Arab leaders with a view to coming out with a common stance on Palestine and the issue of Jerusalem. And prominent part on the Arab and Islamic scene in favour of the Palestinian issue, one can only note that the Oujda treaty comes in due time to unify stances regarding the fundamental questions of the Arab cause. [sentence as received]

Asked whether the Moroccan-Libyan treaty does not constitute another axis within the Maghreb, Mr Boucetta affirmed that it aims at unifying all the countries of the region and remains open to all the states of the Arab Maghreb. The state minister finally indicated that besides its aspects in the areas of foreign and internal policy, the Moroccan-Libyan treaty aims at dealing with the economic, social and cultural issues in a concrete way.

Referendum Date Set

LD191145 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1118 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Rabat, 19 Aug (KUNA) — *AL-AHRAM*, published here, mentioned that the Moroccan and Libyan peoples will be called for a referendum on the federation treaty between the two countries on Friday, 31 August. The newspaper, which is the organ of Istiqlal Party, attributed this to an official source.

UN Spokesman Denies Botha To Visit

AB171340 Lagos NAN in English 1305 GMT 17 Aug 84

[By Lawrence Ukwu]

[Text] New York, Aug 17 (NAN) — Morocco's Permanent Mission at the UN has described as "unfounded" a report in the current U.S. edition of *NEWSWEEK* magazine that the South African prime minister, Mr Pieter Botha, would pay an official visit to the country in October. A spokesman for the mission told the New York correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) yesterday that there was nothing to show, either in Rabat or in New York, that such a visit had been planned. The mission also denied another *NEWSWEEK* report that that South African military advisers were training Moroccan soldiers. The *NEWSWEEK* report [said] that apart from Morocco, Mr Botha would also visit Zaire and Gabon.

AFP: Sources Say Military Commander Unharmed

NC181251 Paris AFP in English 1247 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Rabat, Aug. 18 (AFP) — Authoritative Moroccan sources have categorically denied claims made earlier today by Polisario Front guerrillas that they had killed or seriously wounded the commander of Rabat's forces in the disputed Western Sahara. The Polisario Front said in a communique issued in Algiers that its troops had killed or seriously wounded Colonel Abdelaziz Banani during a raid last Sunday at Oudei Ouerg, near Amgala in northeastern Sahara. However, Western military sources here confirmed having seen Col Banani three days ago here in the capital.

A source at Morocco's Southern Zone Army Headquarters branded the Polisario claim as "fantastic," and said Col Bennani had attended the marriage of his daughter on Sunday here in the capital, where he has been for several weeks. The source added that a number of foreign military attaches met Col Banani during his daughter's wedding. The Polisario Front has been battling Morocco for control of the former Spanish colony since 1975.

Commander Denies His Death

LD191115 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1030 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Rabat, 19 Aug (MAP) — Colonel Major Abdelaziz Banani, the commander of the Southern Moroccan Region, has refuted the APS report that he was either killed or received serious wounds during an offensive launched by the Polisario near Amgala on 12 August. MAP contacted Col Maj Abdelaziz Banani, who affirmed that he will only be too happy to receive and shake hands with any foreign journalist wishing to visit (?El Aaiun) or Amgala or any other place to verify for himself the falsehood of APS' allegations.

SUDAN

Text of Presidential Statement on Islamic Policy

EA192235 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] The presidency of the republic has issued a statement today concerning the situation in Sudan and its image abroad. Here is the text of the statement:

The Islamic course represents a political development as well as national liberation. It is also a democratic expression of the will of the Sudanese people and a pressing political necessity for the security of Sudanese society. It is an impenetrable barrier and a bulwark against the religious tension and extremism witnessed bo other Islamic areas in the world. We have applied it gradually. The Islamic course brings together all religious values for the building of the nation, its (?cohesiveness) and the mobilization of its spiritual and material energies for the development of Sudan and for ensuring its security and the building of a clean society where justice and good works prevail and a society cleansed of vile deeds, reprehensible acts, and outrageous actions.

The application of Islamic law practices in government and economics is a confirmation of the principle of consultation and democracy and an impetus to development together with the realization of social justice and the provision of freedom and responsibility in work.

The Islamic course respects the freedom of non-Muslims and calls on them to promote their religious personalities. It also ensures for them the practicing of their creeds and religious and cultural rites and their own forms of education.

The Islamic system fosters the rights of man, both individually and collectively and guarantees constitutional and legal rights. In the application of the Islamic system there is justice and deterrents which protect society from the spread of crime, violence and chaos. We find in it all human rights which some appear to be calling for these days.

Sudan's policy towards the decentralization of government and the transfer of authority to the masses was drawn up in response to the need of the vast [word indistinct] regions for development with justice through decentralized government particularly in the south whose cultural uniqueness we recognize.

The revolution has resolved its problems by the political accord [the Addis Ababa agreement which granted autonomy to the south] and directed to it huge development projects. Further application of decentralization in the south was but a response to the demands of its people. The fate of decentralization measures in it and in other regions are subject to the political decision of the particular governor of the region.

There is an open invitation for the sons of the south who are outside the law to return to the fold of the homeland and participate in a united Sudan. The doors of political dialogue are open for them without political conditions except the requirement to abandon violence and stop acting as stooges.

Sudan's problems would not have become complicated were it not for the interference of external elements. Sudan has resolved all its internal problems by political dialogue. However the insistence of the Libyan authority which is mounting campaigns against us because of our consistent stands on issues of interest to Africa and elsewhere and our calls for non-interference in internal affairs and for reconciliation between nationalist political forces — all these made Libya openly declare its alliance with all Sudan's enemies in a bid to undermine its legitimate regime.

Ethiopia embarked on encouraging its relations with the USSR. This is confirmed by the Cuban military presence on its territory. It is motivated by what it suffers as a result of its internal problems with the Eritrean, Somali, Tigrean and Oromo nationalities. It accuses Sudan falsely and slanderously and works against it by training and arming outlawed elements and indoctrinates them with Marxist ideology to attack Sudan's borders and sabotage its development centres with the aim of over-throwing its constitutional regime and its legitimate leadership. In spite of this, Sudan has been reserved in its reactions and does not exercise its international right to make an equal response. It has not ceased to call for negotiations and peace in particular with Ethiopia. It confines itself in its military operations to defending its border points and protecting its development sites.

The concern shown by some news media with the Islamic developments in Sudan and what goes on in southern Sudan reveals a great deal of misunderstanding and sometimes ill-intentions. Religion has never been the cause of differences in Sudan, politically or regionally. The application of the shari'a was not contrary to the rights of man or the rights of religious minorities or opposed to progress. We appeal to all those who concern themselves with news of Sudan to come here and familiarize themselves with its policies and internal conditions.

Sudan will always adhere to its Islamic course from which it will not deviate because it is a cultural option and a political necessity. It will adhere to the principle of peace and conciliation among the diverse elements which constitute together a moving force for the wheel of development, exploiting its promising potentialities.

Sudan will continue to be an oasis of peace receiving refugees in spite of the economic suffering and social problems so caused. It will continue to adopt gradual, reformative and social policies. It will continue with its development plans.

In the external arena, Sudan will continue to be an advocate of peace and moderation, faithful to its friends in the international arena, avoiding extremism and alignment and will not interfere in the internal affairs of other states regardless of their systems.

Foreign Minister on Relations With USSR

JN181527 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Aug (SUNA) — Answering a question by SUNA on what has been reported outside on Sudan's relations with the USSR , Foreign Minister Hashim 'Uthman asserted that Sudan has not severed relations with the USSR. The USSR has a resident representative with the rank of ambassador. The minister noted that this was his response to a question directed to him on Sudan's stand after Egypt restored diplomatic relations with the USSR. The magazine *AT-TADAMUN* quoted the minister as saying that his country is not thinking about restoring diplomatic relations with the USSR and that the restoration of Egyptian-Soviet relations does not necessarily mean that Sudan must do the same despite the existence of integration between Egypt and Sudan.

President Numayri Receives Mubarak Message

JN191648 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1520 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 18 Aug (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri today received 'Izz ad-Din as-Sayyid, People's Assembly speaker, IPU chairman, and chairman of the Nile Valley Parliament's current session. In a press statement, 'Izz ad-Din as-Sayyid said he breifed the president on his recent visits to Geneva and Cairo. He also said he conveyed a message from his Brother Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak on bilateral relations within the framework of continued consultations between the two presidents.

Man Sentenced For Criticizing President

JN171533 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1020 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Khartoum, 17 Aug (SUNA) — In its daily report, the Decisive [an-najiza] Justice District Attorney's office said that at the request of Court No 2, the Decisive Justice Court of Appeals has reviewed the trial of a businessman who received a 5 year sentence after being indicted under Article 105 of the penal code on contravening laws and instigating hatred of and opposition to the state, Articel A-127 on disturbing the peace, and Article B-38 of the emergency law.

The person in question criticized the president of the republic [words indistinct] at the last Friday prayers in the Armed Forces Mosque. The court found that the accused criticized the president, who was in the pulpit. and asked to be allowed to speak to the worshipers. When the president asked him to (?come) to his office, the man became enraged, (?used) offensive words and insisted on speaking to the people. He said that the president is non-Muslim. When he was arrested, he repeated remarks that owing allegience to the president is a wrongful act and that the president does not deserve it.

The accused carried a slip of paper on which he had jotted down a few points he wanted to read to the president and the worshipers. These points said that the emergency law has degraded the citizens' dignity and has returned them to pre-Islamic paganism. Therefore, this law must be suspended and all detainees must be released, including As-Sadiq al-Mahdi and Mahmud Muhammad Taha. Some of the other points say that owing allegiance to the president is a wrongful act, and that the people are oppressed. The accused also objected to the zakat by asking: How can zakat be asked from a poor people who cannot provide for their sustenance?

The accused also said that the president must step down immediately and hand power over to the people so that they can safeguard their freedom, independence, and national unity.

Defendant Salah ad-Din as-Sabah al-Mahdi admitted to all that he had said and to what he had written on the slip of paper. He claimed that his actions were based on his right to free opinion as stipulated by the Islamic shari'a.

The court sentenced him under Article 105/127 and Article B-38 on the premise that his actions undermined public security, and that he expressions he used instigated hatred against the state and its institutions, represented in the president. The court also said that the expressions the defendant used indicate that he objects to the Islamic trend which has been prevailing in the country for the past year. In light of all this and for the above reasons, the Decisive Court of Appeals decided to uphold the sentence passed by Court No 2 for the above reasons. However, the Decisive Court of Appeals decided to commute the sentence from 5 years to 2 years and to 80 lashes.

TUNISIA

Foreign Minister on Moroccan-Libyan Agreement

LD171432 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] TAP has addressed the following question to Beji Caid Essebsi, foreign affairs minister: Last year an agreement of fraternity and cooperation was signed by Tunisia and Algeria which was joined by Mauritania. Early this week an agreement was signed by Morocco and Libya providing for the creation of a union between the two sides. What is your opinion, minister of this agreement and its effect on the Arab Maghreb arena?

Beji Caid Essebsi answered: Tunisia which always strives to improve the relations of fraternity concord and cooperation between itself and its brothers, whether at the bilateral level or within the context of the Greater Arab Maghreb, blesses every action which falls in this context. It was pleased that His Majesty King Hassan II and His Excellency Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi had notified the great struggler His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba, of the signing of the unity agreement between their two countries before its declaration. In reference to the fraternity and concord agreement signed by Tunisia, Algeria, and Mauritania in 1983 and which was at the time offered to all the states of the region, and this offer still exists, Tunisia confirms anew its adherence to this agreement in which it sees, in view of its principles and the joint work and cooperation to which it sees, in view of its principles and the joint work and cooperation to which it led, a sound framework for the edification of the great Arab Maghreb in the shadow of fraternity, solidarity, cooperation, and integration. It sees the continuation of dialogue among the various countries of the region as the best way to achieve the objectives and aspirations of their peoples.

UAE President Holds Talks With Mzali

LD171411 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] The official visit to Tunisia by His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the United Arab Emirates, at the invitation of President Habib Bourguiba has entered its second day. Talks between the UAE and Tunisia continued this morning.

His Highness Shaykh Zayid talked at 1000 today at his residence at Markaz Qantawi tourist complex in Sousse with Mohamed Mzali, prime minister and interior minister, in the presence of His Highness Shaykh Rashid ibn al-Mu'alla, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of Umm al-Qaiwayn, His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn Muhammad ash-Sharqi, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of Fujairah, and the ambassadors of the two countries. His Highness Shaykh Zayid and Prime Minister Mzali then chaired a working session in which members of both official delegations took part.

UAE President's Itinerary Reported

LD181252 Kuwait KUNA in English 1121 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Tunis, Aug 18 (KUNA) — The United Arab Emirates president, Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan will not proceed to Libya following his current official visit to Tunisia, an informed source in the delegation accompanying Shaykh Zayid told KUNA Saturday. Following the three-day official visit which started Thursday, Shaykh Zayid will stay in Tunisia for a vacation and would then leave for Morocco on a private visit. The source said that the date of the UAE president's Tripoli visit will be decided later.

Arab diplomatic sources said on Friday that the UAE President was expected to leave for Tripoli after his official visit to Tunisia to follow up UAE efforts for a settlement of the Western Sahara dispute between the Polisario Front and the Moroccan Government. Meanwhile, the UAE president, who is heading a powerful delegation here, is scheduled to meet today with Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi as well as heads of diplomatic missions in Tunisia.

Al-Qadhdhafi Calls UAE President

GF190942 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0528 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Sousse, 18 Aug (WAKH) — UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan received a telephone call from Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi at his residence in Sousse tonight. During the conversation, views on the current Arab situation were exchanged.

UAE President Ends Visit

LD181441 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Excerpts] On the third day of his visit to Tunisia, Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE today received Chedli Klibi, Arab League Secretary general, in the presence of a number of members of the official delegation accompanying his highness the shaykh. Following the meeting Klibi made the following statement to the press: The meeting this morning with His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan was an opportunity to review a number of important issues related to the joint Arab action, inter-Arab relations and the relations of our states with the outside world.

Shaykh Zayid also received the heads of the diplomatic missions accredited to Tunisia led by the doyen of the diplomatic corps, Ambassador al-Hamid of Kuwait. The heads of the delegations expressed their warm welcome and extended to him the greetings of the kings and heads of state of their countries. His highness was accompanied by members of the official delegation and Beji Caid Essebsi, foreign affairs minister; Abdelmajid Karoui, ambassador and director general of protocol, and [name indistinct], governor of Sousse. The esteemed guest then gave a reception in honor of the heads of the diplomatic missions. And with this Shaykh Zayid has ended his official visit to our country which was crowned with a joint communique due to be issued later today.

Tunisian-UAE Joint Communique

LD182038 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Aug 84

["Text" of joint communique on the official visit of Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, issued 18 August]

[Text] In response to an invitation from His Excellency Habib Bourguiba, president of the Republic of Tunisia, His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) paid an official visit to the Republic of Tunisia from 16-18 August 1984, accompanied by an important delegation which included Their Highnesses Shaykh Rashid ibn Ahmad al-Mu'alla, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of Umm al-Qaiwayn, and Shaykh Hamad ibn Muhammad ash-Sharqi, member of the Supreme Council and ruler of Fujairah. The honorable guest and his accompanying delegation were given an official and popular welcome, and were surrounded with great hospitality from His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba as an expression of the depth and sincerity of the ties of fraternity and brotherhood which link the two heads of state and their brotherly peoples.

In an atmosphere of fraternity and understanding, talks were held between the heads of the two states and between the two countries' delegations led by His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and His Excellency Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali, which focussed on bilateral relations. His highness and the prime minister expressed their utmost satisfaction at the level reached by cooperation between the two brotherly countries, especially in the field of joint investment and development. They reviewed the steps taken and the results achieved.

The two sides expressed deep satisfaction at the positive results of the visit and the talks which contributed effectively toward consolidating and developing the ties of brotherhood and understanding which exist between the two countries, and at the level of development and growth reached by cooperation between them as a realization of the sincere efforts of His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan and his brother His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba.

The two sides expressed utmost pride in the fortunate opportunities opened by His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan's visit for strengthening cooperation between the two brotherly countries and peoples, embodied in the signing of the economic agreement which highlighted the UAE's [word indistinct]and His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan's personal support for development plans in the Republic of Tunisia and the beneficial projects which they include.

The two sides agreed to continue bilateral cooperation and to strengthen it in all fields, especially those pertaining to labor, technicians, and experts and to review plans for technical, cultural and information cooperation. The talks dealt with current world issues, especially the situation in the Arab world. The two leaders stressed the need for efforts to remove all Arab differences and to settle them in a constructive brotherly spirit for the sake of concentrating on facing the threats which the Arab nation is subjected to at this critical stage of its history. They stressed the importance of full Arab solidarity, unity of ranks and the need to implement the text of cooperation (?agreements) between Arab countries and the provision of means of progress and strength for their peoples.

The two leaders paid particular attention to the situation in the Middle East and stressed that the Palestinian issue is at the center of the problems which threaten the region's security and exposes it to dangers the fatal regional and international consequences of which would be difficult to predict. They expressed firm belief that no just and lasting peace in the region can be realized unless it is based on enabling the brotherly Palestinian people to exercise their firm unalienable and unquestionable rights, foremost among which is the right to self-determination and the establishing of its free and independent state in Palestine led by the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The two sides stressed the need for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied Arab territories, including holy Jerusalem and the Syrian Golan Heights. They urged the world community to shoulder its responsibilities by making every sincere and available effort to find a just and comprehensive solution to the Middle East problem. The two sides reviewed the development of the situation in Lebanon and expressed their satisfaction at the progress achieved with the return of calm to the country. They expressed support for the Lebanese Government's efforts to extend sovereignty to all Lebanese regions, to reinstate security, and to settle differences through dialogue. They stressed their support for the Lebanese Government in its demand for the withdrawal of Zionist invasion forces from southern Lebanon, and to impose Lebanese sovereignty on the south. They praised the heroic resistance of the Lebanese people against the Zionist invasion forces.

On reviewing the prevailing situation in the Arab Gulf region, the two leaders expressed deep concern and worry about the continuation of the war between Iraq and Iran, and stressed that the continuation of this war is grave and [word indistinct] danger to security and stability in the Gulf region, world security and peace and Islamic solidarity. The two leaders urged Iraq and Iran to put an end to the fighting and the wasting of the two Muslim countries' resources and capabilities, and to resolve differences, however difficult they may seem, by peaceful means.

The two leaders expressed continuing support for the efforts made in this regard by the ICO , the Nonaligned Movement, international organizations, and all peace-loving countries. They expressed satisfaction at Iraq's response to all peace efforts.

His Excellency Habib Bourguiba praised the establishment of the GCC and the significant positive results achieved toward uniting and supporting the right of the Arab Gulf countries in the interest of the Arab nation as a whole. He expressed his support for the GCC which has been able to change into an important political axis in a short period of time, enjoying the (?respect) of international organizations.

His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan praised the efforts of His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba to construct a Greater Arab Maghreb. He praised the accord on fraternity and harmony signed in Tunis on 19 March 1984, which is a cornerstone for achieving the unity of the people of the Maghreb.

Reviewing the situation in Africa, the two sides expressed concern about what is taking place in some regions of this continent, and expressed their full support for the peoples of Namibia and South Africa in the struggle against colonialism and Zionism.

Regarding the situation in Afghanistan, the two presidents called for a solution to the Afghan problem and the enabling of the Muslim Afghan people to determine their own destiny without foreign interference.

The two presidents expressed satisfaction at the results of their talks. Their viewpoints are identical on all the issues discussed during this visit.

President Habib Bourguiba praised the gigantic efforts of His Highness Shaykh Zaiyd ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan for the sake of the progress and prosperity of the people of the fraternal UAE.

His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan expressed his admiration and appreciation for comprehensive advancement achieved by the Republic of Tunisia in all economic, social, cultural and construction fields under the leadership of the great struggler, His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba.

He wished his excellency everlasting good health and success and the brotherly Tunisian people increasing progress and prosperity.

His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan expressed his deep gratitude and sincere thanks to His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba, to his wise government and to the noble people for the warm welcome and the extreme hospitality his highness and his accompanying delegation were accorded during this visit.

His highness invited His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba to pay an official visit to the UAE. His excellency gratefully accepted the invitation, the date of which will be set later.

WESTERN SAHARA

AFP: Moroccan Commander Casualty of Attack

NC181107 Paris AFP in English 1101 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Algiers, Aug 18 (AFP) — Polisario guerrillas said today that they had killed or seriously wounded the commander of Morocco's troops in Western Sahara, Colonel Abdekaziz Banani, during an attack last Sunday. The Polisario Front, fighting for independence in the former Spanish colony, said in a communique issued here that Col Banani was hit during a guerrilla operation at Oudei Ouerg, near Amgala in northeastern Sahara. Col Banani took charge of Morocco's troops in the Western Sahara two years ago. There was no official confirmation from Rabat of the Polisario claim.

Saharan Army Seizes Position, Kills 15 Moroccans

LD192156 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] The Saharan Ministry of Information and Culture this evening issued a statement saying that a unit from the Saharan People's Liberation Army was able to seize a position of the Moroccan forces situated in the Jebel Uarkziz. The statement added that this operation followed a grinding battle that lasted 2 hours, during which 15 Moroccan soldiers were killed and 23 others wounded. Also, a substantial quantity of arms and ammunition was destroyed.

Polisario Claims 35 Killed

LD200841 Algiers Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] As a result of new operations by the Polisario Front in the Western Sahara 35 Moroccan soldiers were killed and 52 others injured during an attack which ended with the taking of a barracks of the monarchist forces in the Jebel Uarkziz.

SOMALIA

Halgan Lists Somali National Movement CC Members

EA200507 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1800 GMT 19 Aug 84

[All names phonetic]

[Excerpt] The fourth ordinary congress of the SNM [Somali National Movement] which ended on 9 August elected the following persons as Central Committee members:

Ahmad Mohamed Nahmud Tiranyo; Ali Mohamed Osobleh; Ibrahim Naygag Samatur; Michelino Mohamed; Abd ar-Rahman Ahmad Ali; known as Abd ar-Rahman Tur; Ali Mohamed Hirabe; Abd al-Qadir Koosar Abdi; Mohamed Kahin Ahmad; Hasan Isa Jama; and Abdi Salan Uthman Dini Gorgor.

Shaykh Yusuf Shaykh Madar; Hasan Adan Wadad Diid; Abdi Salan Yasin; Ismail Dubaa; Ali Warsama; Mohamed Hashi Elmi; Mohamed Haji Ibrahim Shaykh Yaro; Mohamed Warsame Hadrawi; Farah Ahmad Ali Farah Jabuti; and Yasin Ahmad Haji Nur.

Mohamed Hildid Said; Ismail Haji Abdi; Shakib Sultan Abdullahi; Mahmud Ismail Galud; Hasan Badmah Maygag; Yusuf Uthman Hasan; Adan Mohamed Diriyeh; Isa Mohamed Husayn Isa Uragteh; Said Mohamed Nur; and Adan Jama Sahar

Mahmud Haji Hasan Hureh [name indistinct]; Uthman Adan Dol Qunleh; Mohamed Ahmad Dayib [name indistinct]; Nurdin Muhammad Afi; Husayn Hashi Salad; Mahmud Ahmad Ismail; Abd al-Nasir Shaykh Ali Salad; Yusuf Abdallah Abdi; Abd al-Karim Mohamed Bihi; and Abd ar-Rahman aw-Ali.

TANZANIA

CCM Nominates Mwinyi as Party Vice Chairman

EA191504 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1300 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] A report just received by our newsroom says the CCM [ChamaCha Mapinduzi] National Executive Committee has nominated Ndugu Ali Hassan Mwinyi as the sole contestant for the post of vice chairman of the party at its special 2-day session which ended in Dar es Salaam today.

To Fill Posts 23 Aug

EA200313 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1700 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Summary] The National Executive Committee [NEC] today announced that the election for the party's vice chairman will be held at a special party conference to be held in Dar es Salaam next Thursday.

The NEC session which ended today also nominated six members to contest two posts in the committee left vacant by [late Prime Minister] Edward Sokoine and Michael Baurt who died this year. Those nominated from the 77 members who applied to be considered for the posts are Foreign Minister Benjamin Mkapa; Mustafa Nyanganyi, minister of state, president's office; Phili (Mangula), Charles Kileo, (Lapila Ole Moloinet), and (Mshinde Mkeyenge). The elections will be held at the special conference.

The NEC also nominated candidates for the Monduli parliamentary seat left vacant by Sokoine's death. Those nominated are Joseph (Lemono) and (Lenaria Ole Sailel).

Daudi Mwakawago, head of political propaganda and mass mobilization of NEC's secretariat, also announced that the NEC will hold a 3-day seminar beginning tomorrow which will be attended by all NEC delegates and invited party and government leaders. He said the seminar will discuss the country's economic situation, the problem of food in the country, and the role of cooperatives in building a policy of socialism and self-reliance.

DPRK Vice President, CCM Leaders Hold Talks

LD191458 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 1300 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Dar es Salaam — The CCM [Chama Cha Mapinduzi] has congratulated the DPRK people for the achievements of 35 years of building socialism in that country. The congratulations were conveyed during joint talks held in Dar es Salaam today between the CCM and a delegation of the Workers Party of Korea led by a member of the Political Bureau of the party, Ndugu Pak Song-chol.

The head of political propaganda and mass mobilization of the NEC [National Executive Committee] secretariat, Ndugu Daudi Mwakawago, who led CCM's delegation at the talks, said Korea's achievements have given great hopes to countries such as Tanzania which are building socialism. He said the CCM also supports efforts to merge South and North Korea, and he assured the people of Korea that despite intrigues by the imperialists to stall the unification of the two Koreas, success would be achieved.

Earlier, Ndugu Pak Song-chol, who is also vice president of the DPRK, thanked Tanzania for supporting efforts to unify North and South Korea. Ndugu Pak called for political, economic, and technical unity between nonaligned countries and developed countries. [sentence as heard]

UGANDA

Muwanga Leads Delegation on Visit to PRC

For XINHUA reportage of the visit to the PRC by a delegation led by Vice President and Defense Minister Paulo Muwanga, including its meetings with PRC President Li Xiannian and other officials, see the Middle East and Africa section of the 20 August China *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

CAMEROON

Envoy says Foreign Powers Involved in Coup Attempt

AB191040 Paris AFP in French 0956 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Bujumbura, 19 Aug (AFP) — "A foreign power, and even some African countries, were involved" in the 6 April coup attempt in Cameroon, Pierre Mvondo She, Cameroon's ambassador to Burundi with residence in Kinshasa, stated in Bujumbura yesterday.

According to the ambassador, who went to take leave of Burundian President Jean-Baptiste Bagaza following his appointment as ambassador to Brasilia, it is, however, "convenient not to name them."

Mvondo She further stated that the relations between the two countries are going on well even though they are recent and still of little importance. He said that Burundi and Cameroon have established relations at all levels and the two countries notably have ties of cooperation in the fields of air transport and education (exchange of students and lecturers between the Universities of Burundi and Yaounde). The ambassador added that these relations could be diversified through the establishment of a joint commission or the signing of agreements in specific sectors.

35 People Reported Killed in Gas Explosion

AB171438 Yaounde Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] At least 35 people have been killed over the last 2 days in a gas explosion in the village of (?Ngoume) some 12 kilometers from the town of Foumbot in the Western Province. [passage indistinct] The nature of the gas responsible for the explosion or its cause has not yet been determined. A communique issued by the Presidency of the Republic last night said that the government has dispatched a team of experts to the scene of the tragedy to carry out investigations.

CHAD

Burundian Minister Delivers Bagaza Message to Habre

AB180935 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] In spite of the distance between Chad and Burundi, relations between the two countries are good. This was declared by Remy Nkengurutse, Burundian minister of transport, after he had been received in audience by President Hissein Habre. Mr Nkengurutse, who arrived in Ndjamena this morning from Yaounde, Cameroon, was received by the president at 1435. Answering questions from Chadian reporters on the Chadian tragedy, the Burundian minister emphasized his country's desire to see the Chadian people regain peace and unity in their country so that they would be able to devote their energy to the development of their country and build a prosperous future for themselves. Here is the Burundian envoy talking to our reporter Lemanga Toyita:

[Begin recording] [Nkengurutse] I have just been received by Chadian President Hissein Habre to whom I delivered a message from Burundian President Jean-Baptiste Bagaza.

[Toyita] What is the state of relations between your country, Burundi, and Chad?

[Nkengurutse] Relations between Burundi and Chad are good. In spite of the distance between the two countries, relations between Chadians and Burundians are very good. We both belong the central African subregion. I hope we will have the means to strengthen cooperation between the Chadian and Burundian peoples.

[Toyita] How is the Chadian tragedy perceived in Burundi?

[Nkengurutse] Of course Burundi follows what is happening in Chad closely. Burundi hopes that the Chadian people regain their peace and unity so that they can devote themselves essentially to the development of their country and prepare a better and prosperous future for the men and women of this country. This is the greatest wish of Burundi. [passage indistinct] [end recording]

The Burundian minister of transport, who was accompanied by [name indistinct], left Ndjamena early this evening aboard a regular Air Afrique flight for Bangui, the next leg of his tour.

Foreign Affairs Minister Leads Delegation to Zaire

AB181220 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] A Chadian Government delegation led by Lassou Gouara, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation and executive secretary of the National Union for Independence and Revolution [UNIR], left Ndjamena this afternoon for Kinshasa. In the Zairian capital, the Chadian delegation will hold talks on the various aspects of cooperation between Chad and Zaire.

It should be noted that relations between our two countries are good: The Republic of Zaire has placed at the disposal of Chad men and materiel as its contribution toward the defense of the independence and territorial integrity of our country. Furthermore, Zaire is training a number of Chadian soldiers in its military academy. From the composition of the Chadian delegation, it can be deduced that there will probably be an inspection of Chadian soldiers training in Zaire, for apart from the foreign minister there is Captain Ndilnodji, minister delegate at the presidency in charge of national defense, and (Idriss Bourgui), commander in chief of the Chadian National Armed Forces.

BURKINA

Sankara Signs Decree Dissolving Government

AB200640 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Decree signed by head of state Captain Thomas Sankara on 19 August in Ouagadougou — read by Staff Sergeant Georges (Songano)]

[Text] Decree Dissolving the Government of Burkina Faso. The chairman of the National Council of the Revolution and head of state decrees:

Article 1. The Government of Burkina Faso is dissolved as from today.

Article 2. The Cabinet ministers are transferred back to their original ministries for immediate redeployment.

Article 3. The present decree will be published in the official journal and wherever the need arises.

Ouagadougou, 19 August 1984

[Signed] Captain Thomas Sankara

Permanent Secretaries To Run Ministries

AB200700 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Decree signed by head of state Captain Thomas Sankara on 19 August in Ouagadougou — read by Staff Sergeant Georges (Songano)]

[Text] Decree on the Execution of the Current Business of the Ministries. The chairman of the National Council of the Revolution and head of state decrees:

Article 1. The principal secretaries of the various ministerial departments are charged with looking after the current business of these ministries.

Article 2. The present decree which takes effect on the signing date will be published in the official journal and wherever the need arises.

Ouagadougou, 19 August 1984.

[Signed] Captain Thomas Sankara

Ministers To Continue on Missions

AB200738 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0630 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Decree signed by head of state Captain Thomas Sankara on 19 August in Ouagadougou — read by Staff Sergeant Georges (Songano)]

[Text] Decree Granting Full Powers to Ministers Now on Mission. The chairman of the National Council of the Revolution and head of state decrees:

Article 1. The comrade members of the dissolved government who are now on a mission abroad are given full powers on an exceptional basis in order to allow them to successfully carry out the missions entrusted to them. These are: Major Jean-Baptiste Boukari Lingani [minister of national defense]; Arba Diallo [minister of foreign affairs]; Major Abdoul Salam Kabore [minister of health]; and Adama Toure [minister of information].

Article 2. The present decree, which takes effect on the date of signing, will be published in the official journal and wherever the need arises.

Ouagadougou, 19 August 1984

[Signed] Captain Thomas Sankara

GUINEA

Soviet Airliner Crash-Lands at Conakry Airport

AB191148 Conakry Domestic Service in French 0915 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Excerpt] An Aeroflot IL-62 airliner crash-landed at the Conakry-Gbessia International Airport, as result of a very bad touchdown. Listen to the explanations given by Conakry Airport Commissioner Soare:

[Begin Soare recording] In fact, the plane arrived at 1645 as usual on a regular flight. Instead of touching down at the beginning of the runway, the pilots preferred to touch down in the middle of the runway for reasons we do not know yet. As the plane was at full speed, they were not able to stop it at the end of the airfield. It finally ran into a swampy area thanks to which a disaster was avoided since it could have continued running as far as the neighboring built-up area. Sixty-nine passengers, including 51 Guineans, were on board the plane. Just one passenger is reported slightly injured; he was bruised. In fact there were no seriously injured passengers. Maybe it is a fracture, we do not know yet. Meanwhile, he is now at the hospital.

In my judgement, the crew is responsible for what happened since the weather was good and they were already on the ground; therefore, nobody can accuse the control tower. Concerning the aircraft itself, its front wheels are seriously damaged, which can be easily seen, and it is possible that the jet engines of the plane are also damaged. [end recording]

LIBERIA

Doe Returns Unexpectedly From European Trip

Visited FRG

For Monrovia reportage on the visit to the FRG by President of the Interim National Assembly Samuel K. Doe, including his talks with FRG President Richard von Weizsaecker, see the FRG section of the 17 August Western Europe *DAILY REPORT*.

Declared Healthy

AB161957 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 16 Aug 84

[Text] The president of the Interim National Assembly, Dr Samuel K. Doe, has been declared healthy by physicians at the military hospital in Koblenz, West Germany. According to Mr Willie Givens, deputy minister of state for public affairs, traveling with Dr Doe, the head of state underwent a 3-day medical examination and tests at the hospital. The Liberian leader left Liberia last Saturday for the FRG to undergo his annual medical checkup.

Returning for 'Important State Matters'

AB191212 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1200 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] The head of state and president of the Interim National Assembly, Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, is due back in Monrovia in about half an hour's time from now. A LIBERIAN NEWS AGENCY [LINA] release issued at the weekend quotes Press Secretary Patrick Koma as saying the head of state has canceled the visit to return home to attend some important state matters.

Although the press secretary did not spell out the state matters, observers in Monrovia believe the state matters are in connection with current matters confronting the state which include the denial of the faked coup last week by Presidential Affairs Minister Dr Blamo, the failure of the Interim National Assembly to meet twice last week, and probably in connection with the Justice Minister's order calling for the arrest of Election Commissioner Isaac Nyeplu, who is reportedly at large.

The LINA release also reported at the weekend that the head of state is scheduled to bring along a consignment of drugs and equipment for the John F. Kennedy Memorial Hospital, which were obtained for the nation through private sources and through personal purchase by him. It can be recalled that in the meeting with his West German counterpart last week, the head of state asked for a loan of $400,000 and an additional $5-million loan to alleviate the drug shortage hospitals in the country are facing.

Arrives in Monrovia

AB191354 [Editorial Report] Monrovia Domestic Service in English at 1318 GMT on 19 August broadcast a live relay of the arrival of head of state Samuel Kanyon Doe at Monrovia airport. At 1320 GMT the announcer says members of the diplomatic corps are at the airport, as well as Cabinet ministers, members of the former People's Redemption Council, and members of the Interim National Assembly. At 1327 GMT the announcer says the DC-10 Swissair airliner which brings the head of state who has "put off his visit to the Republic of Austria and the Socialist Republic of Romania" has finally come to a halt. At 1329 the announcer says Dr Doe is now coming down the ramp.

At 1331 the Liberian national anthem is heard. Following the anthem the announcer says President Doe inspects the guard of honor. At 1334 GMT the announcer says there is a march-past by the honor guard which concludes the welcoming ceremony at the Roberts International Airport in Monrovia. The live relay ends at 1330 GMT.

Head of state Doe made no statements at the airport.

Comments on Arrival

AB191610 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1439 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Live relay of head of state Samuel K. Doe's arrival at the Executive Mansion in Monrovia on 19 August; Doe's speech recorded]

[Summary] "The time is 21 minutes to 3 [1439 GMT]. We now join Cyrus Badu at the Executive Mansion."

[Badu] "Thank you very much Patrick Manjo. This is LBS [Liberian Broadcasting Service] OBI [expansion unknown] crew 1 and we have been joined here by crew 2." "The noise in the background is an indication that the Liberian leader is here. Actually, Steve Mackondi is here with me and he is more familiar with the ceremonies down here. So I will now turn the microphone over to Steve. Steve."

[Makondi] "Well, Cyrus, there is nothing much to say here." "The executive motorcade now arrives." "Right after here we will be playing the statement which Dr Doe delivered to the press at the Roberts International Airport. The commander in chief is riding in a black limousine, standing right there waving to the crowd with a white handkerchief in his hand."

[Badu] "The head of state now stands in attention, and the Liberian national anthem." [national anthem heard] "That was the playing of the Liberian national anthem. The head of state now moves into the building and I am not sure whether the head of state will be making a statement. If..."

[Makondi] "Well, as I told you earlier Cyrus, the head of state delivered a statement at the Roberts International Airport. But unfortunately we had already turned our controls over to studio and I think that was the statement he would have read here if he had not read it over there. This is why you are seeing most of the officials (?waiting here). So I think the next thing to do is to play that statement which Dr Doe delivered at the Roberts International Airport for our listeners to know what the commander in chief said to the press at the Roberts International Airport."

[Begin Doe recording] "I decided to cut short my trip abroad in order to attend several urgent matters." These matters include the "current political developments in the country. I will also use this occasion to inform the nation that I have (?passed the medical tests)."

"I have succeeded in obtaining 125 worth [as heard] of drugs and medical supplies." "The minister of health and social welfare will leave here shortly as head of a delegation to visit West Germany to take delivery of these drugs and arrange for future supplies. Because of the importance the government attaches to the health of the country, I shall address the Interim National Assembly this Wednesday, highlighting the strategy (?and our consideration) on how the situation can best be resolved. I want to thank the minister of state, the speaker of the assembly, the Cabinet, and the entire leadership for maintaining peace in the country during my absence. I note that the vice president of the Interim National Assembly has returned home permanently and we welcome him. Thank you." [end recording]

[Badu] "That was the Liberian head of state, Dr Samuel Kanyon Doe, addressing the press and government officials who met him at the Roberts International Airport when he returned from the FRG, where he underwent medical checkup."

[Makondi] "Thank you very much Cyrus Badu. Well we must also say thank very much to our studio anchorman, Patrick Manjo, our technical man at the studio, Francis Blamo, our crew" at the Executive Mansion; "we also want to say thank you very much to our technical team."

[Manjo] "Thank you very much. This is LBS, in studio in Monrovia."

Interim Assembly Vice President Returns From UK

AB172156 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] The vice president of the Interim National Assembly, Dr Harry Moniba, returned home tonight from Britain after taking leave of the British Government. Dr Moniba was seen off this morning at London Heathrow Airport by Queen Elizabeth II's marshal, (Stanley Martin), and the charge d'affaires of the Liberian Embassy in London, Mr James Stephen, as well as some Liberian residents in Britain. Dr Moniba said he was leaving London with happy memories and expressed satisfaction over the lovely cooperation he received from the British Government.

Assembly Members, Others Arrested for Security Reasons

AB200729 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 0706 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Four persons, including two members of the Interim National Assembly [INA], have been arrested by the Government of Liberia for security reasons. According to an Executive Mansion press release, those arrested were Colonels Larry David Borteh and Jerry Friday Jorley, both members of the Interim National Assembly. Dr Amos Sawyer of the university of Liberia, and Mr John Klay Kieh were also arrested. According to the release, the four are to be brought to justice shortly, and those who have been found guilty will bear the full weight of the law.

Minister Orders Arrest of Election Commissioner

AB170820 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] The Justice Ministry in Monrovia has ordered one of the commissioners of the Special Elections Commission to report to the nearest police station without delay. The commissioner, Isaac C. Nyeplu, according to the national radio, has been given 24 hours to give himself up or be arrested. No reason was given for the order, but an announcement from the Justice Ministry, signed by the justice minister, Jenkins Scott, has ordered all security personnel to have Mr Nyeplu arrested and carried to the Justice Ministry.

Mr Nyeplu was a former minister of justice and a former senior defense counsel at the Special Military Tribunal in Monrovia.

NIGERIA

Minister on Oil Exploration, Additional Revenues

AB191342 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Excerpts] Nigeria is taking steps to widen the areas of oil exploration within her territory.

The minister of petroleum and energy, Prof Tam David-West, told a conference of petroleum engineers in the oil city of Warri that exploration was now moving away from the traditional Delta Basin to the Chad Basin, in the northern part of the country.

The minister disclosed that the recent adjustment in the country's oil quota, approved for August and September by OPEC, would bring additional 160 million naira in foreign exchange, and if it was permanent for 1 year, it would give Nigeria more than 1 billion naira. Professor David-West said that he was optimistic that the poor world oil market situation will improve.

First Executions Under New Military Regime

AB181355 Lagos NAN in English 1350 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Maiduguri, Aug 18 (NAN) — Two condemned armed robbers, Mohammed Ramandan, 23, and Adamu Suleiman, also 23, were today in Maiduguri executed by firing squad before a crowd of 3,000 people who clapped and cheered at each gun shot. It was the second public execution in the state and the first since the military came to power in December last year.

Mohammed and Adamu, who come from Cameroon and Chad respectively, were sentenced to death on June 7 this year by the Borno armed robbery and firearms tribunal for robbing the house of the secretary to the military government and head of service, Alhaji Gaji Galtimari.

Mohammed Ramanda, who asked for and was given a stick of Benson and Hedges cigarette while being tied to the stake, said that although he had committed many crimes in his lifetime, he was innocent of the one for which he was being shot, and that his death was "the will of God".

Adamu Suleiman, who refused to come down from the black maria that brought them and was carried out of the vehicle to the execution ground, also claimed innocence of his crime.

A pick-pocket caught pickng someone's pocket during the exercise was beaten by the crowd and handed over to the police.

Trial of Ex-Finance Minister to Start 20 Aug

AB200846 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] A former minister of the defunct civilian administration, Mr Victor Masi, who headed the Ministries of Works and Finance at different periods, is today facing a seven-count charge before the Special Military Tribunal, Lagos Zone.

Mr Masi is accused of contravening the code of conduct and receiving kickbacks to the tune of 1.7 million naira from a foreign company. He is also charged with awarding a 15.16 million-naira road contract to a firm in which he had 50-percent shares while he was the minister of works. The former personal assistant to the ex-minister, Mr Simon Nwokomah, is also appearing before the tribunal for aiding and abetting corruption. Mr Masi is the first ex-minister to appear before the tribunal.

Further on Trial

AB191404 Paris AFP in English 1355 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Lagos, Aug 19 (AFP) — The trial begins tomorrow at the Lagos Zone Special Military Tribunal of Victor Masi, a former federal finance minister in Nigeria's defunct civilian regime, official sources said here. Mr Masi will be the first old regime minister to face the tribunals of the country's new military rulers, who seized power last December 31. He was minister of public works in deposed President Shehu Shagari's first Cabinet in 1979 and became finance minister in 1982. He and his personal assistant Simon Nwokomah are to answer seven related charges of corruption and "unjust enrichment."

According to Military Public Relations Director Lt Col Walter Jibunoh, one of the charges concerns allegations of a 3.3 million dollar kickback demand by the former minister and his aide from the construction company Aprofim, which last year sought government guarantee for an external loan of more than 72 million dollars.

So far, 18 former officials, including nine ex-governors, have been jailed for terms ranging from five to more than 20 years in the series of corruption trials.

DAILY STAR Says U.S. Not Willing To Help Country

AB171110 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 17 Aug 84

[From the press review]

[Text] The *DAILY STAR* expresses doubt over the United States preparedness to assist Nigeria in her economic recovery program. It says the recent pledge by the U.S. ambassador in Nigeria in respect of the program should not be taken seriously. The *STAR* observes that the United States has hindered the efforts of Nigeria in obtaining loans from the International Monetary Fund.

SIERRA LEONE

New Export-Import Control Measures Introduced

AB172000 Paris AFP in French 1555 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Freetown, 17 Aug (AFP) — Sierra Leone's President Siaka Stevens yesterday evening announced drastic measures on import and export dealings in the country. These include the restrictions of import and the closure of the Port of Koindu which is mostly used by smugglers.

Mr Stevens also announced the creation of a marketing company for precious metals. It will be responsible for the handling of gold and diamonds. In addition, the Committee for External Trade has been modified and will henceforth include representatives from the government, the Ministry of Finance, and the precious metals industry. From now on, it will be placed under the control of President Stevens himself.

Permission must be obtained for all goods entering Sierra Leone. All goods not covered by permission will be confiscated by the state. The Koindu Port, which has largely been used by smugglers, will be closed. Finally, an "antismugglers brigade" has been created and offenders will henceforth be severely punished, President Siaka Stevens stated.

ANGOLA

UNITA Forces Claim 106 Enemy Troops Killed

PA181320 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0909 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Lisbon, 18 Aug (EFE) — The antigovernment guerrilla group Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) reported today that "106 enemy" troops, including 8 Cubans, were killed in several military actions this week.

A communique released by UNITA in Lisbon states that its forces attacked the airport in the northern enclave of Cabinda where they killed 7 Cubans and 15 members of the Angolan Army.

According to the communique, on 14 August a "MiG-21" jet, whose pilot was a Cuban, was downed in the province of Moxico, and a helicopter was destroyed.

UNITA also reported that two posts of the regular troops were occupied, one in Kaungula, 58 km from the border with Zaire, and another in Cuma, in the province of Benguela.

BOTSWANA

President Meets Visiting RSA Party Delegation

MB190719 Gaborone Domestic Service in English
1125 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] The President, Dr Quett Masire, has asked the main opposition party in South Africa, the Progressive Federal Party, PFP, to help bring about improved relations between Botswana and the white-ruled republic. The president made the appeal this morning when talking to a 15-man strong delegation of the PFP.

The delegation is in Botswana on an educational visit and returns to South Africa tomorrow. He told the leader of the delegation, Mr (Peter Soul) that relations between Botswana and South Africa had deteriorated as a result of the insistence by the South African Administration for Botswana to sign a pact along the lines of the Nkomati Accord.

The president reiterated his government's policy, which refused Botswana to be used as a springboard for attacks against any neighboring state. He said Botswana gives only token support to liberation movements, and that freedom fighters keep out of the country because they know the stand of his government. Dr Masire stressed that Botswana is a small state and that it was in no position to cause problems.

In an interview with BOPA, Mr (Soul) said his government attached great significance to the meeting with the president. He said he would be reporting to his party's parliamentary caucus and to the party's foreign affairs spokesman, Mr Collin Eglin. He also said that the president's message will be conveyed to the South African parliament next year.

Masire Calls Tribalism 'Enemy of Peace'

MB171252 Gaborone Domestic Service in English
1125 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] The president, Dr Quett Masire, yesterday addressed a meeting at where he once again stressed the importance of national unity. Dr Masire said that tribalism was an enemy of peace and called on the nation to nurse Botswana's national unity at all costs. He also said that the choice of Setswana as a national language was made in good faith and that people are free to speak their mother tongue.

Dr Masire also talked about developments that have taken place during the years of the Botswana Democratic Party [BDP] rule. He said there were now more schools than there were at independence. He also said that it is planned that in 1992 there will be enough secondary schools to accommodate all successful standard 7 school leavers.

On Dirda Sechaba [Serve the Nation], the president said that the scheme was intended to familiarize the participants with the problems of rural Botswana. He also talked about government development policies such as the arable land development program, the financial assistance policy, and others which are intended to help people with financial assistance to set up business and agricultural ventures.

On the political scene, Dr Masire urged the electorate to choose competent people to represent them in parliament. He said that once a party has been voted into power, it has the mandate to lead and that if this power is placed in the wrong hands it can easily be abused.

The president said that the BDP has just launched its manifesto as it had done in the past, and assured his audience that if reelected his party would carry on the development of this country with the same dedication and honesty it had shown in the past. He observed that one of the opposition parties had resubmitted as its manifesto one that was first submitted during the pre-independence campaign and said that such a manifesto was outdated and therefore a mockery of the electorate.

Attorney General Cites Delays if BNF Wins Vote

MB180800 Gaborone Domestic Service in English
0510 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] The attorney general, Mr Moleleki Mokama, has said that the appointment of a new president will be delayed for 3 weeks if the opposition Botswana National Front [BNF] wins the forthcoming general election. Mr Mokama said that in the event of the BNF winning the elections the chief justice will declare that nobody has been elected president and the newly elected National Assembly will have to meet to elect the new president within 14 days.

The leader of the BNF, Dr Kenneth Koma, failed to meet the deadline for registering as a presidential candidate at the high court last Saturday. Earlier this week, Mr Mokama told the *GUARDIAN* newspaper that there were no legal problems as far as the matter was concerned, as Dr Koma had all the supporting documents and added that Dr Koma had met all the requirements for the nomination, except that he had not signed the first acceptance form. He stressed that the importance of the signing of the acceptance form by the candidate because the consent of the candidate was essential. According to the Botswana Constitution, a caretaker president will remain in office until parliament meets to elect a new president.

COMOROS

President Seeks Reelection; To Visit Mayotte

AB191321 Paris AFP in English 1317 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] Domoni, Comoros, Aug 19 (AFP) — President Ahmed Abdallah Abderemane today announced that he would run for reelection as the sole candidate in polls scheduled for September 30 in this tiny island chain off the East African coast.

Speaking at a rally in his home town of Domoni, Mr Abdallah reiterated plans to travel to Mayotte, an island which refused to join the Comoran State when it unilaterally declared independence from France in 1975 and which the Moroni government claims as part of its territory. Mr Abdallah's intention to visit Mayotte drew strong protests from that island's population earlier this year, forcing him to postpone the planned trip. He told the hometown crowd here that he would never accept the loss of Mayotte, which is still administered by France, and would continue efforts to reintegrate the island into the Comoran State.

LESOTHO

Jonathan Grants Amnesty to Exiled Opponent

MB171233 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1130 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Maseru, Aug 17, SAPA — The self-exiled leader of Lesotho's opposition party, Mr Ntsu Mokhehle, would be granted amnesty so that he could participate in the coming general elections, the prime minister, Dr Leabua Jonathan, said today. Addressing the Lesotho National Assembly, which adjourns today, Dr Jonathan said Mr Mokhehle, leader of the Basutoland Congress Party, could return to Lesotho to contest the elections "if he wishes to." Dr Jonathan further announced he would allow the United Nations to monitor the running of the elections, which are to be conducted by the commissioner of police. No date has been set for the elections.

Prime Minister Notes BCP Leader Mokhehle Welcome

MB200520 Maseru Domestic Service in English
1130 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text) The prime minister, the right honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan, yesterday reiterated that the self-exiled leader of the BCP, Basotholand Congress Party, Mr Ntsu Mokhehle would be allowed to return home if he submitted an application to do so under the amnesty act of 1980.

Speaking at a massive pitso [meeting of elders], at Qualing ha Monyani in the Maseru District, Dr Jonathan said that 45 people have returned home under the act since 1980. The prime minister said that Basotho have refused several times in history to be under South Africa's sphere of influence, and will not allow itself to bow to South Africa's pressure.

Dr Jonathan said that after extensive consultations within Lesotho, the Government decided that it was not necessary to conclude a nonaggression pact with South Africa. He added that the government will not compromise Lesotho's independence and sovereignty.

The prime minister disclosed that South Africa used all manner of tactics to put pressure on him to sign a nonaggression treaty. He quoted the humiliating and embarrassing treatment which Basotho have to endure when crossing border posts into South Africa. He added that the Boers even use the Highlands Water Scheme between the two countries as a lever to coerce Lesotho to sign such a pact. At one stage, they even offered the prime minister a personal gift of 1 million maluti and another 1 million maluto for the Basotho National Party [BNP]. Dr Jonathan said none of these maneuvers will make him bow to the pressure of signing such a pact.

In the face of such efforts by the enemy to subjugate Basotho, the prime minister said Basotho must unite, irrespective of their political or religious differences. He appealed even to politicians to divert political opinions to support him in his efforts to resist South Africa's encroachment.

Dr Jonathan said that as much as some people may commit to history some of the past heroic efforts to maintain Lesotho's unity, the December 1982 invasion of Maseru by South Africa during which some people, even in Qualing, were killed cannot be forgotten or ignored. He said the Boers are the enemy of every Masotho, including even those who say we deserve what we got then, like Mr Mofeli of the United Democratic Party.

Dr Jonathan added that the helicopter which is still being held in Durban by the Boers was going to be used to ferry emergency food for people in the mountain areas who have been affected by the current severe drought conditions. The Basotho under the BNP may not relent, he declared.

The prime minister said the BNP is no longer just a political party, but a mass movement which accommodates all Basotho despite their political differences. Eighty-seven people from different political parties were admitted into the BNP after renouncing their former parties. This is especially significant because the Maseru constituency has hitherto been a stronghold of the opposition BCP. Also present at the pitso were several Cabinet ministers, chiefs, senior civil servants, and thousands of Basotho.

Speaking at the prime minister's pitso at Qualing ha Monyane yesterday, the minister of agriculture and marketing, the Honorable B.M. Peete, said it is of historical significance that Basotho have since 1910 refused to be incorporated into South Africa. That resolve has to be maintained to keep Lesotho independent, he added. Mr Peete said it is a shame that Ntsu Mokhehle, who was the standard-bearer of the Sotho politics, has now abandoned the noble course of giving Basotho political direction and living in South Africa. That same country, he added, invaded and killed Basotho in December 1982, with some targets probably being pointed out to the invading Boers by Mokhehle's followers.

The minister invited all Basotho to abandon their differences and join BNP, which is founded on certain important basic principles. These principles are the Basotho Christian heritage, the customs, culture and traditions of Basotho, and the commitment to the national development through self-relience to attain economic development.

The honorable Peete said the BNP believes that the development of the country cannot come through bloodshed, because or forefathers have already shed their blood to maintain Lesotho as an entity. Those who espouse this philosophy, he said, should rally behind the BNP under the leadership of the prime minister, the Right Honorable Dr Leabua Jonathan. The BNP associates itself only with the fears and aspirations of Basotho.

MOZAMBIQUE

Armed Forces Destroy 'Bandit' Base in Gaza

MB190830 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0605 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] In implementing guidelines from the fourth Frelimo Party congress to eliminate the armed bandits, our Armed Forces destroyed a base belonging to these criminals in the area of (Bumburi), Gaza Province. A total of 12 bandits were killed and a number of others wounded. Our forces also seized violins, radios and cartridges following their attack on armed bandits in (Bumburi).

In Inhambane, our forces killed eight bandits and captured three others and a quantity of weapons during an attack.

Machel Leaves for Official Visit to Romania

MB200920 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] Field Marshal Samora Machel, the chairman of the Frelimo Party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, today begins an official visit to Romania where he will attend the celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of the liberation of that country from Nazi occupation due on 23 August. Thereafter, Field Marshal Samora Machel will make a brief visit to Bulgaria. The leader of the Mozambican revolution who left Maputo last evening was seen off by senior party and government officials.

Joe Slovo Present at Maputo Memorial Ceremony

MB181120 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] A memorial ceremony was held in Maputo yesterday for Ruth First, the South African militant, writer, scholar, and teacher, who was killed by a letter bomb in the Mozambican capital 2 years ago. Among those who laid flowers on her grave in Maputo yesterday were her husband, Joe Slovo, and collegues who worked with her at Eduardo Mondlane University.

NAMIBIA

Van Zijl Discusses MPC Role, Resolution 435

MB190540 Windhoek WINDHOEK OBSERVER in English 11 Aug 84 p 30

[By Gwen Lister]

[Excerpts] Windhoek: The National Party would not agree to the implementation of Resolution 435 unless the Cubans were withdrawn from Angola and until United Nations impartially had been established beyond doubt, said Mr Eben van Zijl, leader of the National Party delegation in the Multi-Party Conference, when he addressed a public meeting on Monday night.

Mr van Zijl was severely critical of Resolution 435, saying that the implementation of that Resolution would lead to polarisation of population groups and an exodus of whites. "The peaceful inhabitants have suffered enough under Resolution 435; the peaceful inhabitants rightfully demand their self determination and want to decide their own independence plan", he said.

Mr van Zijl also sketched the background to National Party participation in the MPC.

Referring to the activities and problems of the MPC, Mr van Zijl said although he was not in favour of it, self-determination for the people of this country had been internationalised. "We can say we don't care what the world abroad thinks, but we sit with an East-West conflict on our border, and when the superpowers come into conflict, it is never on their own soil", he said.

Whether people liked it or not, he added, Russia and the United States were involved in a conflict in a neighbouring state (Angola) "and we are expected to provide the battlefield".

United States interests in this part of the world, were to roll back Soviet influence, while the Russians wanted to spread Marxist ideology. South Africa too, had its interests, he added, saying that they wished to halt the spreading Marxism before it spread over their borders, and they spend millions on the border to serve their interests in this regard.

It was against this background, he said, that Resolution 435, the plan to give effect to self determination, had been drawn up. "We are not allowed to draw up our own independence plan", added Mr van Zijl.

Mr van Zijl then went onto the question of Resolution 435, saying that it was unacceptable and unsatisfactory, but to reject it was "blatantly irresponsible", he added. Rejection of 435, he continued, would result in sanctions against South Africa.

The plan, he said, in terms of which self determination was to be accorded to the people of this country with a "free and fair election", was based on the Westminster system in which the "winner takes all". "I say to you and the West that the application of the Westminster system will lead to the exclusion of certain groups in the decision making proccess and will not bring peace", said Mr van Zijl.

Resolution 435, he added, was "dangerous" and even Brian Urquhart of the UN had said 435 was "no holy cow". People in influential positions, he added, were now listening to the arguments against 435.

Mr van Zijl then categorically stated that the NP would not agree to the implementation of Resolution 435 until the Cubans had been withdrawn. Regarding UN impartiality, the NP would not agree to 435 until impartiality had been shown in tangible way.

Summing up, Mr van Zijl said 435 was unsatisfactory because it did not allow free and fair elections; the NP would not agree to implementaion until the Cubans had been withdrawn; and lastly, the UN would have to prove impartiality.

Mr van Zijl then stated that the MPC was giving attention to various problems, but people should realise the problems were complicated and the solutions difficult.

Mr van Zijl continued to say that the MPC wished to create a climate conducive to independence. This included, he added, national conciliation, which he preferred to call "national consensus".

Problems, he said, must be removed. In this sense, the whites should feel secure, not threatened, and they would want to know that their property, language, and religion would not be taken from them. If such a climate of conciliation or consensus was created, then one could speak to countrymen because one did not feel threatened, he added.

Distrust and discrimination must be eliminated, he added saying that then conciliation could not come about, and event the exercise of self determination [as published]. Peace was a prerequisite for independence.

The MPC, said Mr van Zijl, would also give attention to economic problems. They had organised, on August 20, a seminar where economists would address them.

Many people asked why they had not seen results from the MPC, but he pleaded for understanding of the complicated problems.

He could not give his audience a long inventory on what the MPC had achieved, he continued, but for the first time a "non SWAPO, non militant group had achieved recognition in Africa".

The MPC had also achieved the recognition of South Africa, said Mr van Zijl, adding that South Africa had discussions with, and negotiated with, the MPC. They had also achieved recognition from various African countries and even certain Western nations.

The MPC Bill of Rights, he told his audience, had been compiled on UN documents and by changing aspects of the documents, the MPC had succeeded in getting the "humanism" out of it, and getting God acknowledged. Many people had asked him "Why do you talk to SWAPO?", Mr van Zijl continued.

"SWAPO is Marxist, commits violence, murders inhabitants and was a front organisation for the Communists — all this is true", he said, adding however that "SWAPO is as part of the problem as the sun is part of this country".

His attitude was that he would speak to anyone if they were part of the problem. "I do it for the cause", added Mr van Zijl, who then issued a warning to SWAPO, saying they should lay down arms and join the MPC or continue with their violence, in which case time was running out for them, and they would not always be able to make this choice.

Mr van Zijl then said that "we will have to achieve national consensus on an independence plan and get it accepted by some important members of the international community". The constitution to be drawn up by the MPC, he added, would have to be realistic and protect minority rights.

He gave his audience the assurance that the NP would remain in the MPC and try and find a solution, for as long as it was possible to find solutions.

Pretorius Discusses National Party Role in MPC

MB181130 Windhoek WINDHOEK OBSERVER in English 11 Aug 84 p 31

[Excerpts] Windhoek: In his opening speech to the 42nd National Party Congress, Mr Kosie Pretorious MEC [Member of Executive Council], leader of the National Party justified National Party participation in the Multi-Party Conference by saying that while principles did not change, methods and policy could be accomodated to a changing set of circumstances.

On the platform with Mr Pretorius sat a rather dour-looking Mr Jannie de Wet MEC, Mr Frans van Zyl MEC and Mr Eben van Zijl, leader of the NP delegation in the MPC, who went to great lengths in his speech, to obtain approval for NP participation in the MPC.

In his opening speech, Mr Pretorius described to his audience the changing set of circumstances over the years, which had led to NP involvement in the Multi-Party Conference.

There were clearly four periods over the last two decades, said Mr Pretorius, when NP policies and methods had changes in order to remain a factor.

External pressure had played a crucial role in South African actions in SWA, while inside the country the whites had to experience changes, sometimes virtual revolutionary changes, in the form of Proclamations.

Peaceful resistance by whites, Mr Pretorius continued, did not prevent the continuation of this process. Circumstantial factors and the political climate made it worthless for the National Party to conduct talks with either the AG or DTA, then in control of the National Assembly and Ministers Council.

The strength of the NP then lay in negotiations with the SA Government said Mr Pretorius, adding that these had not been without success.

Turning to 1983 and further, Mr Pretorius said this was a time of changes by means of negotiations between political parties. The scrapping of the National Assembly led to a time when the SA Government was no longer prepared to conduct direct negotiations with elected representatives of second tier governments or individual political parties.

"It was also clearly spelled out that South African interests would be taken into account in the final instance," he said.

The National Party at this time, was to make one of its most difficult decisions.

The National Party at this time had entered the field of constitutional discussions. Mr Pretorius emphasised that they did not choose this process, which was chosen by powers greater than themselves, and for this reason the Aktur constitution had been changed in 1983.

When the question of State Council came up, he had approached Mr Eben van Zijl. The State Council did not get off the ground, and a Multi Party Conference began to take form, he said. The decision of the MPC to operate on the basis of consensus, the fact that participating parties were not required to give up their own identity, and the fact that the final product would be subject to a decision by Congress, had made it easier for the NP to play a role.

SWANU Branches Express No Confidence in Leaders

MB181200 Windhoek WINDHOEK OBSERVER in English 11 Aug 84 p 32

[Text] Windhoek: A unamimous Otjiwarongo Declaration, adopted by 14 of the 18 SWANU branches in Namibia, would seem to indicate that the SWANU membership is on the move to oust the present leadership of the Party, and indications are that the SWANU Extraordinary Congress, set down for September 1 this year, will be a most lively event.

According to a statement signed by Mr Isak Uirab, representative of SWANU external branches, and member of the Press Committee appointed to draft the statement, the all-branches conference, held last Saturday (August 4) adopted several unanimous motions, one of which read that "this conference has no confidence whatsoever in the present leadership of the Party as represented by the Central Committee and Politburo." The motion added that the conference was satisfied that the Central Committee and Politburo were "totaly unfit to lead the Party further in accordance with the revolutionary programme of SWANU for the liberation of our country, nor do they have the support of the membership." Consequently, the motion demanded that both the Central Committee and Politburo resign immediately.

The following motion requested that the Congress Committee be requested to accept the responsibility to lead the Party in the interim and to ensure that the Exraordinary Congress, planned for September 1 and 2, take place as planned.

The all-branches conference also strongly denounced the purported expulsions and so-called disciplinary actions taken by the Central Committee against those in the Party opposed to what the statement termed the "Multi-Party Circus".

"We wish to emphasise that the expulsion of the Vice President, Comrade Kuzeeko Kangueehi and the Secretary of the Politburo Comrade Nora Chase, as well as comrades Charles and Freddie Nguvauva are unconstitutional, null and void and of no effect whatsoever," said the statement.

The Conference also came out in rejection of the so-called MPC "as a South African gimmick, an institution without legitimacy, credibility or any form of mandate from the people of Namibia". Consequently, they demanded the immediate and total withdrawal of all and any SWANU members from that body. The branch meeting went further and rejected new Party constitution and programme, and went on to give the basis for the motion of no confidence in the leadership of SWANU.

The leadership, according to the statement, was guilty of the following:

— An unprecedented abuse of power as evidenced by the expulsion of SWANU cadres;

— Serious and fundamental deviation from the revolutionary and socialist line of SWANU in that it was paying lip service to the implementation of Resolution 435, while in reality it was seeking alternatives to the said Resolution, in spite of the fact that SWANU was one of the first parties to come out in favour of Resoulution 435. The present leadership, alleged the statement, was also pursuing a policy of total collaboration with the South African Government, and had made SWANU party to an anti-SWAPO front, namely the MPC, which was "sponsored and directed by white Pretoria with the aim of exacerbating divisions within the black nationalist movement".

The statement further alleged that the leadership had displayed "shocking political incompetence" in the pursuit of unity with forces such as the DTA and National Party at the cost of unity within SWANU itself, as well as jeopardising broader unity within the Namibian liberation movement.

The leadership, continued the statement, had further shown a total disregard for the rights of SWANU members when dealing with any activity of the Party. "That is to say, the leadership is running SWANU as if it were a Tribal Council where the word of the Chief is law and therefore unquestionable".

This, added the statement, was evidenced by the consistent and persistent refusal of the leadership to consult SWANU members and branches on the Party's involvement with the MPC; their refusal to consider and give effect to requests of 14 branches to call an extraordinary congress; their refusal to give effect to requests for a precongress All Branches Conference to try and minimise the potential damage to the unity of the Party; the leadership had also persistently violated the letter and spirit of the Party constitution, particularly with regard to election and voting procedures for a Central Committee.

"This has resulted in the fact that more than one-third of the members of the Central Committee has been co-opted and have not been elected by secret ballot as the Constitution demands, thus making both the Politburo and Central Committee unconstitutional".

SWAPO Denounces 'Constructive Engagement' Policy

MB190615 Luanda ANGOP in English 0900 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Luanda, Aug 18 (ANGOP) — The South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) of Namibia called on the international community to press South Africa to apply the UN Resolution 435 on the Namibian independence.

A declaration of the plenary of the SWAPO's Central Committee, held recently in Luanda, denounced also the reactionary policy of constructive engagement followed by the U.S. Administration in relation to the apartheid regime, enabling it to continue the exploitation of the Namibian people.

The document accused Washington and Pretoria of impeding all attempts to resolve the Namibian problem, in view of guarantee the strategic economic interests of Western powers in Southern Africa.

The declaration condemned the form adopted by the racist government to destabiilize the Frontline Countries to oblige them to cease their assistance to SWAPO and ANC.

SOUTH AFRICA

Party Leaders React to UN Security Council Vote

MB181236 Johannesburg Domestic Servic in English 1115 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] There has been widespread reaction to the UN Security Council's adoption of a resolution rejecting the new South African constitution and the forthcoming Colored and Indian elections. The vote on the resolution was 13 in favor and none against, with two abstentions — the United States and Britain. The South African ambassador to the UN, Mr Kurt von Schirnding, said after the vote that as far as South Africa was concerned, the resolution would have absolutely no effect. He said it was ridiculous for the council to act against South Africa when the country was broadening its constitutional base.

Describing the resolution as immoral, the leader of the Labor Party, the Reverend Alan Hendrickse, said he regarded it as a futile attempt by the world body to camouflage its inability to bring about peace and security in the rest of the world.

He said the UN was prepared to give a hearing to organizations such as the ANC and the Pan-Africanist Congress, whose members had not been in South Africa during the past 20 years. Some of the countries which had taken part in the debate had a poor human rights record, and their governments had come to power in a violent manner. The Reverend Mr Hendrickse said as far as South Africa was concerned, the UN resolution was irrelevant.

The leader of the Labor Party in the Free State, Mr Philip Saunders, said it was ironic that the Security Council is condemning South Africa and not other countries. He said at Heilbron, that in certain countries there was only a single election for one candidate and no democratic elections took place. He added that the process of reform is in progress in South Africa, and that this should be encouraged.

The leader of the Freedom Party, Mr Arthur Booysen, said the new dispensation and the election for the House of Representatives were domestic issues to be decided by South Africans only. The country's political problem should be solved by its people through negotiation. Mr Booysen described the UN decision as wrong and untimely.

The leader of the People's Congress Party, Mr Peter Marais, also criticized the decision. He said political development in South Africa had taken place without the help of the UN and the future would prove that the country's political problems could be solved only through negotiation.

The Cape member of the South African Indian Council Executive, Mr (Rhaman Bhana) said people outside the country should not interfere in its domestic affairs, adding that although the new constitution was not the best in the world it was at least a starting point. He said he had decided to participate in the new dispensation because it would give him the power to negotiate for his people. He said it was better to fight from within than to shout from outside.

Agreement Reached With Mozambique on Road Links

MB171930 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Consensus has been reached between South Africa and Mozambique at talks on Inhaca Island on the need for safe and efficient road and air links for tourist traffic to Mozambique. Decisions were also taken on the promotion of nature conservation in Mozambique with which the South African National Parks Board will lend a hand. The South African delegation to the talks was led by the chairman of the Tourism Board, Mr Danie Hough, and that of Mozambique by the deputy minister of tourism, Mr Antonio Materrula.

Pact Signed With Mozambique for Joint Company

MB190510 Johannesburg Domestic Serice in English 1115 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] A declaration of intent was signed today between the Mozambican Government and the Lowveld Liaison Committee, opening the door for South African private investment in Mozambique. The declaration provides for the founding of Repmoza, a public company in which the Mozambican Government and the committee will each have a 50 percent share. In terms of the undertaking, South African finance will be raised to revive the flagging tourism infrastructure of Mozambique.

The declaration was signed by the Mozambican secretary of state for tourism, Mr Antonio Materrula, and the chairman of the Lowveld Liaison Committee, Mr (Johnnie Hern), on Inhaca Island, off the Mozambican coast.

Mr Materrula told our representative that the first coordinated effort will be in the field of tourism with Repmoza seeking South African entrepreneurs to invest in the Mozambican tourism industry. He said his government would plough back profits into the country's tourism infrastructure, and added that individuals and companies would also be allowed to join the venture.

Mr (Hern) told our representative that a similar agreement regarding agriculture would be entered into.

Commentary on RSA-Mozambique-RENAMO Talks

MB171649 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Station Commentary: "South Africa's Stabilizing Role in Southern Africa"]

[Text] There has been another dramatic example of South African efforts to stabilize the Southern African subcontinent, an example which belies the claims in certain quarters that the role of South Africa has been playing in the area is that of a destabilizer.

In Pretoria, discussions with the South African Government have been held by both the Mozambican Government and RENAMO [Mozambique National Resistance]. Describing the entire situation as extremely delicate, the minister of foreign affairs, Mr Pik Botha, confirmed that issues affecting the Nkomati Accord between South Africa and Mozambique had been discussed with RENAMO. He said that such discussions would not be held without the consent of the Mozambican Government.

Mozambique's Minister of Economic Affairs General Jacinto Veloso said he had no objections to discussions between South Africa and RENAMO as long as they did not adversely influence the Nkomati Accord.

Informed sources believe that South Africa would not want to use her good offices to bring about a meeting between the Mozambican Government and RENAMO in the hope that they will be able to sort out the differences. Particularly since the signing of the Nkomati Accord, South Africa has no satisfaction whatsoever in the continuing strife in Mozambique and the role the resistance movement is playing in destabilizing the country.

South Africa has adopted the same attitude towards events in Angola. Recently the administrator general of South-West Africa, Dr Willie van Niekerk, said that it would be a good thing if the Angolan MPLA-Labor Government and UNITA were able to reach an accommodation. The continuing civil war in that country is preventing the withdrawal of the Cubans and this in turn is hampering a settlement in South-West Africa. It is of course a welcome development that the countries of Southern Africa are looking more and more to themselves as the means of settling problems in the subcontinent and that there does appear to be a tendency towards pushing the superpowers into the background.

Prime Minister Discusses Angola, World Opinion

MB171131 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0953 GMT 17 Aug 84

[By Pierre Claassen]

[Text] Durban, Aug 17, SAPA — There could be no basis for peaceful solutions in Southern Africa unless the rest of the world considered South Africa's point of view, the prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, said in Durban today. In a brief address at the start of today's proceedings at the Natal National Party congress, Mr Botha reiterated that there could be no settlement in SWA/Namibia while there were Cubans in Angola.

"Our viewpoint is that we shall remain in the forefront in seeking a solution for the territory on condition that the Cubans leave Angola. We cannot accept their presence in respect of the SWA/Namibian problem, nor can we, as a regional power, accept the presence of foreign troops in our midst. Account will have to be taken of South Africa's viewpoint or there can be no basis for peace," Mr Botha said. He directed this remark at the United Nations and the international community in general. "We do not have to ask other countries for the right to live in our fatherland — that right we acquired from our creator," said Mr Botha.

Describing his recent European tour as a success, he said he did not want to create the impression that Europe accepted the view of South Africa. "I believe there is no single political party (in South Africa) that can satisfy totally the international demands made of us. There is no country in the world with the problems of South Africa and none in which policies have been accepted and proved to be a successful example which we can follow. All we can do is walk the road of justice and fair application of our policies to serve the principles of stability, economic progress and peace in South Africa." The prime minister said his government was committed to this course.

PAC Opposes Botha Visit to African Countries

MB171351 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1300 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] The Pan Africanist Congress [PAC] does not want the South African prime minister to visit African countries. Responding to reports that Pieter Botha was to undertake an African tour, a senior official in the PAC says that the congress will approach the OAU if Botha does so. The official says that the whole African continent should take a stand on Botha's planned tour and that the PAC is watching Botha's plans with great interest.

Police Kill 'Guerrilla' in Soweto Gunbattle

MB191100 Johannesburg CITY PRESS in English
19 Aug 84 p 1

[By Dan Langa]

[Excerpt] Police blasted a Soweto house late on Friday night in a shootout drama in which a suspected guerilla was killed. The SAP public relations division in Pretoria confirmed yesterday that a man, whom they described as a "suspected terrorist", had been killed. According to eye-witnesses, the dramatic shootout in Mapetla occurred at about 11 pm and lasted well over 30 minutes.

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Greets Soviet Military Delegation

MB190850 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0700 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] His Excellency President Kaunda has described apartheid as an institutionalized evil. Speaking when he received a Soviet military delegation at State House, the president said the practice of apartheid in South Africa has brought much suffering for the people of the Southern African subcontinent. He said that South Africans have not been contented with limiting the evil practice to South Africa, but have also extended it to the colony of Namibia which it holds illegally.

The president also revealed that South Africa has formulated its plans aimed at making independent Southern Africa an extension of its racist bantustan system. President Kaunda, however, said the eventual fall of South African apartheid at the hands of the country's majority was inevitable.

Swaziland-ANC Talks End; Communique Issued

MB171855 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] Conciliatory talks between the Swazi Government and the ANC of South Africa ended in Lusaka today with both sides agreeing on the need to strengthen contacts between them.

According to a joint communique issued at the end of the 2-day talks, a friendly and cordial atmosphere [words indistinct]. The two sides agreed to strengthen contacts to enable them to [words indistinct] issues that may arise in future. The Swazi Government delegation was led by member of the Supreme Council of State, Dr George Msibi, while ANC president Oliver Tambo led his delegation.

The two delegations expressed deep gratitude [words indistinct] to the president Dr Kaunda, who they said personally contributed to the success of the meeting. The Swazi delegation, which included Minister Without Portfolio Mhambi Mnisi and Minister of Labor and Public Service Mhlangano Matsebula, later left for home and were seen off at the airport by some ANC leaders. Relations between the two sides were strained after the signing of the Nkomati Nonaggression Treaty between Mozambique and South Africa, which caused some of the ANC cadres to cross into Swaziland which had also signed a similar pact with Pretoria 2 years ago.

Kaunda Returns To Lusaka From Tanzania

MB171830 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 17 Aug 84

[Text] His excellency the president, Dr Kaunda, returned home from Dar es Salaam where he (?flew) this morning for bilateral talks with his Tanzanian counterpart, Dr Julius Nyerere. Dr Kaunda was accompanied by the member of the Central Committee, Mr Daniel Lisulo; Special Assistant for Political Affairs Mr Wilfred Phiri, and Special Assistant for Press Mr (Milimo Kunavantu).

Funds Needed for Tanzania Pipeline Repair

MB180724 Lusaka Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] Zambia is looking for $16 million to rehabilitate the 72-kmstretch of its Tanzania-Zambia pipeline which has been leaking. Minister for works and supplies, Haswell Mwale, told reporters in Dar es Salaam yesterday that the money was asked through the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, SADCC. However, he gave neither details of the loss suffered nor the pledges made by donor agencies bacause no reports have been received from SADCC secretariat in Maputo. He refuted reports by Western media on Zambia's locomotives being grounded because of lack of fuel. Mr Mwale said the railway services were halted because the corporation was indebted to a local oil company to a tune of 2 million kwacha. The minister said the railway services resumed yesterday after payment of the money.

ZIMBABWE

British Delegation Voices Support for Zimbabwe

RSA Peace Initiatives Criticized

MB200914 Harare Domestic Service in English
0600 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] The Lord John Hatch, the visiting British Labor Party member of parliament, says he does not believe South Africa is genuine in its peace initiatives with Angola and Mozambique.

Lord Hatch, who represented the Labor Party at the recent ZANU second congress, told the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation that the Pretoria regime is mainly buying time to enable it to further entrench apartheid. He said South Africa is aware that the day of reckoning is at hand and is seeking ways of silencing liberation movements in the region.

Lord Hatch said to achieve this, the regime is prepared to blackmail African states in order to derail the struggle of the masses of South Africans.

Commenting on the recent ZANU congress, Lord Hatch said the resolutions adopted are in keeping with the realities of Zimbabweans. He said the establishment of a one-party state will consolidate African democracy and the traditions of the region, adding that Westminster critics of a one-party state are ignorant of the aspirations of the African people.

UK Media Coverage Criticized

MB200910 Harare Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] The leader of the British parliamentary delegation, which ended its visit to Zimbabwe yesterday, Mr Guy Barnett, says events in Zimbabwe have been greatly distorted in the British media. Mr Barnett told the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation that the week-long tour of Zimbabwe has proved that the British press is wrong, and it is his delegation's intention to correct this image. He said it will arrange meetings with heads of the British media to see how Zimbabwe's distorted record can be corrected.

Mr Barnett said there are too many positive things which the British press is not covering, adding that he had been impressed by the progress made in Zimbabwe since independence. He said although mistakes have been made in Zimbabwe as in any other country, they do not warrant the bad publicity the country is getting overseas. The British parliamentary delegation toured the Victoria Falls, Bulawayo, and other areas of interest, and also held talks with several government ministers.

New ZANU Central Committee Meets; Sets Committees

First Meeting Held

MB181218 Harare Domestic Service in English
1115 GMT 18 Aug 84

[Text] The ZANU Central Committee elected by the recent ZANU second congress, is meeting for the first time in parliament building. The ZANU publicity secretary, Comrade Nathan Shamuarira, told the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation that the meeting will discuss the setting up of standing committees as provided for by the new constitution. He said the meeting is being addressed by the first secretary and president of ZANU, and prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe.

Members Elected to Committees

MB190730 Harare Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 19 Aug 84

[Text] The enlarged Central Committee of the ruling party, ZANU, has elected five standing committees which shall supervise government departments and their activities. The standing committees elected yesterday are, the Political and Policy Committee, the Economic Committee, the Social and Welfare Committee, the National Security Committee, and the Legal and Constitutional Committee.

The Political and Policy Committee is chaired by Comrade Simon Muzenda, and other members are Comrades Ushewokunze, Mangwende, Shamuyarira, Shava, Tekere, Chikowore, C. Ndlovu, (Buterai), Madzinga, Marere, Mrs Musungo, (Mrs Gedagu), and Mrs Zobgo.

Comrade Enos Nkala chairs the Economic Committee and other members are Comrades Hove, (Muvuti), Chidzero, Chilende, Mahachi, Mawema, (Matunda), Chigwedere, Malianga, S. Ndlovu, Kangai, Sabina Mugabe, Mrs (Moti), and Wenyimo.

The chairman of the Social Welfare Committee is Comrade Dzingai Mutumbuka, and members are Comrades Mutasa, Sekeremayi, (Mukanganengwe), Mavayire, (Gongodi), (Haparadza), (Nemaropa), (Sarayi), (Banyika), Midzi, (Wunda), Mrs Sally Mugabe, and Mrs (Mahopo)

The National Security Committe chairman is Comrade Emmerson Munangagwa, and members are Comrades (Sadungure), Rex Nongo, (Fungamirayi), (Dangana), (Harimandzira) (Dava), (Auramazi), (Tungwaru), (Nkwamanzi), (Kasange), and Mrs Ndlovu.

Comrade Maurice Nyagumbo has the Legal and Constitutional Committee, whose members are Comrades Teurai Ropa Nongo, Eddison Zvobgo, Mubako, (Dziyandi), (Ndengegwi), (Chinenkunzu), (?V. Dube), Yenge, Muwatiwa, (Atanga), N. Dube, (Mulukuti), and (Kabasa).

The first secretary of ZANU, Comrade Robert Mugabe, reminded the Central Committee members that by accepting leadership they also accepted that the leadership code should apply to them.

Comrade Mugabe said there is no exception in the application of the code. He said the code will apply to all, whether they have recently acquired property, or the properties were acquired over a period. Comrade Mugabe said those members of the Central Committee who are affected should make their choice as soon as possible and tell the Central Committee. He stressed that socialism must begin with the leaders and this is the expectation of the people.

Committee Roles Outlined

MB200625 Harare Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 20 Aug 84

[Text] The administrative secretary of the ZANU Politburo, Comrade Maurice Nyagumbo, has outlined the functions of five standing committees elected by the party's Central Committee on Saturday. The standing committees will supervise the activities of government departments.

Comrade Nyagumbo told *THE HERALD* that the Political and Policy Committee led by Comrade Simon Muzenda, and the Economic Committee led by Comrade Enos Nkala will give political and economic guidance to both the public and private sectors. The Social and Welfare Committee under Comrade Dzingai Mutumbuka would formulate policies related to the needs of children, orphans, the aged, those injured at work, and the general welfare of the disabled.

The National Security Committee led by Comrade Emmerson Munangagwa would formulate from time to time active work (?subject) to whether measures covering regulations will still be needed. Comrade Nyagumbo leads the Legal and Constitutional Committee which will monitor all the country's acting laws with a view to amending or abolishing them.

The minister said the Central Committee will ratify all recommendations made by the newly established committees. He said that this is only a brief outline how they will function, adding that experts with specialized knowledge would be co-opted when required.